The Washington Post

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Democracy Dies in Darkness

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023 · **$3**

A judicial rebuke for Social Security

Disability cases riddled with faults, judges say, to agency's often-deaf ears

BY LISA REIN

Hurled from a road-paving machine, Michael Sheldon tumbled 50 feet down a Colorado slope and struck a mound of boulders headfirst on a summer day in 2006. After eight surgeries to his head, neck and spinal cord, his debilitating headaches, chronic pain and post-traumatic stress have made it impossible to return to his work preparing roads for new subdivisions.

Yet for more than a decade, the Social Security Administration repeatedly denied Sheldon's full claim for disability benefits that would pay him $1,415 a month.

Even after three federal judges found significant errors with how his case was handled and sent it back to Social Security for new hearings, the agency continued to reject Sheldon, court documents show.

"They've done everything to prolong this to get me to quit," he said after testifying in March at his fifth hearing. Now 59, he lives with his wife in a trailer in Cortez, Colo., and depends on food stamps and state benefits for the indigent. "I can't replace the battery on a vehicle. Why has this taken 14 years?"

Like Sheldon, thousands of other disabled Americans battle for years for benefits, even after federal courts rule in their favor.

In the last two fiscal years, federal judges considering appeals for denied benefits found fault with almost 6 in every 10 cases and sent them back to administrative law judges at Social Security for new hearings — the highest rate of rejections in years, agency statistics show. Court remands are on pace to reach similar levels this year.

SEE **SOCIAL SECURITY** ON **A4**

PHOTOS BY CAITLIN O'HARA FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

For flood of homeless seniors, care can be hard to come by

Shelters and other providers are often not equipped to handle group's unique health and housing needs

BY CHRISTOPHER ROWLAND

PHOENIX — Beatrice Herron, 73, clutched a flier offering low-cost cable TV, imagining herself in an apartment, somewhere out of the Arizona heat where, like others her age, she could settle into an armchair and tune in to a television of her own.

Instead, the grandmother and former autoworker can be found most mornings in a food line, or seeking shade under the awning of a mobile street clinic. At night, she sleeps on a floor mat at a homeless shelter. She laments the odors of human waste outside and the thieves who have victimized her repeatedly.

"My wallet's gone," she said. "My purse was stolen."

She hardly stands out from the dozens of seniors using wheelchairs and walkers at a complex of homeless shelters near downtown Phoenix, or from the white-haired denizens of tents in the surrounding streets — a testament to a demographic surge that is overwhelming America's social

SEE **HOMELESS** ON **A8**

ABOVE: Nette Reed checks in on Cheryl Sanders, 59, in Phoenix. LEFT: Beatrice Herron, 73, also is homeless in the city. She said she had lived in an assisted-living facility but it was too expensive.

Yellen: Funds run dry June 5

CLEARER DEADLINE ADDS TO URGENCY

Lawmakers close in on final deal, citing progress

BY JEFF STEIN, PAUL KANE, RACHEL SIEGEL AND TONY ROMM

The U.S. government will run out of money to meet all its payment obligations on June 5, if Congress does not raise the debt ceiling, Treasury Secretary Janet L. Yellen told lawmakers on Friday, providing a more precise forecast to lawmakers trying to break an impasse.

Her new projections came as lawmakers struggled to strike a deal that would raise the nation's borrowing limit and hold spending down, which Republicans have said is necessary to get their support to raise the borrowing limit.

Yellen had previously told Congress that the United States could run out of funds in early June but "as soon as" June 1. Treasury's new estimate provides more specificity on when the government will exhaust its funds.

"We now estimate that Treasury will have insufficient resources to satisfy the government's obligations if Congress has not raised or

SEE **DEBT** ON **A6**

Stalemate leaves feds facing the unknown

BY LISA REIN

With the threat of government default looming, the unions representing anxious federal workers have pressed the Biden administration for guidance on what a debt ceiling calamity might mean for their millions of members.

So far, the official answer has been consistent: We have nothing to tell you.

"We're saying, 'We don't have a handle on this, and we need to get a handle on it,'" said Jefferson Friday, general counsel for the 100,000-member National Federation of Federal Employees, who was planning at a Zoom meeting Friday to bear down again on officials at the Office of Personnel Management. "They're saying, 'We don't know anything.' Or whatever they did know, they weren't allowed to tell us."

The 2.1 million employees who keep the vast federal government afloat find themselves in a precarious limbo as talks between the White House and House Republicans to raise the country's bor-

SEE **FEDS** ON **A7**

At odds: Crisis forces Biden to wrestle with limits on his power. **A6**

Prosecution highlights disconnect in pot laws

Despite D.C. legalization, 8 company employees were indicted in Virginia

BY SALVADOR RIZZO

Connor Pennington always knew he would start his own business, though he wasn't sure what type. His family recalls how he mused as a teenager about running clothing brands or breaking into the music industry, drawing inspiration from his father, a cafe owner in rural Currituck County, N.C.

When nearly 65 percent of D.C. voters approved Initiative 71 in 2014, legalizing the recreational use of marijuana, the 29-year-old found "what I truly believe is my calling," he said: distributing pot. He named the company Joint Delivery.

Although he knew marijuana sales were illegal under federal law, Pennington created a website where customers could place orders, and he had delivery workers fan out daily in bikes or cars. Hoping to create a professional atmosphere, he hired middle managers and a full-time accountant. The company generated at least $4 million in sales from 2017 to 2022, according to court records.

"I tried out all these services, figuring out what they were lacking in," Pennington said. "I remember I went in for a service, and the guy just hands me it out of the bag with the window cracked this, you know, three inches. And I was like … this is not going to create a good, healthy environment."

Pennington, who had been a restaurant manager in D.C., saw himself as a pioneer in what he predicted would become a boom-

SEE **DELIVERY** ON **A9**

ELIZABETH FRANTZ FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Angel Reese gives Jill Biden an assist

Louisiana State University women's basketball co-captains Emily Ward, left, and Angel Reese, right, present team jerseys to President Biden and first lady Jill Biden during an event Friday at the White House celebrating the team's 2022-2023 NCAA championship season. **Stories, A3, D2**

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As partisans in Washington dither, 'unsustainable long-term fiscal future' looms

Federal Insider

JOE DAVIDSON

No matter how the nation's debt limit debate is resolved, there's a related but less noticed issue that will continue to plague America well after the partisan recriminations subside.

"The federal government faces an unsustainable long-term fiscal future" is the blunt warning in a new report from the Government Accountability Office, the government's main auditor.

Washington is dawdling on a fiscal path that cannot be tolerated, and the predicament is unlikely to be resolved soon.

The $1.4 trillion federal budget deficit in fiscal 2022 was the fourth largest in U.S. history. Yet, that amount represents a 50 percent drop from the year before. Higher tax revenue and lower coronavirus pandemic relief spending contributed to the decline. At the same time, the nation's debt held by the public grew by $2 trillion, for a total of $24.2 trillion. Budget deficits are annual expenditures over revenue and increase the debt. The nation's debt amounts to the accumulated deficits over time.

As wonky as deficit and debt debates are, the real-world consequences can be severe. They include painful choices like reducing expenses, which Republicans generally favor. That could mean cutting programs that serve the poor, the sick and the old. Raising taxes on the rich, which Democrats favor, is another option, but Republicans object. Finding some combination of more revenue and less spending is the long-term challenge our current hostile, two-party system finds difficult to navigate.

But without a durable solution, "the underlying conditions driving the unsustainable fiscal outlook pose serious economic, security, and social challenges if not addressed," Gene L. Dodaro, comptroller general of the United States and the GAO's head, wrote to President Biden and congressional leaders in a letter accompanying the May 8 GAO report. "Congress and the administration will need to make difficult budgetary and policy decisions to address the key drivers of the debt and change the government's fiscal path."

In this seventh annual report on the nation's fiscal health, the GAO outlined points that Congress should consider in a fiscal sustainability plan. That plan should address factors that propel deficits, but the solutions also divide partisans.

This report sounds much like the first, issued in 2017, when Dodaro declared himself "deeply concerned" about the nation's finances. Yet, during an interview he sounded more determined than discouraged about continued congressional dithering. The magnitude of fiscal problems was demonstrated by the GAO's decision to issue a rare press release on the report. Of the GAO's 427 reports this year, only eight were announced with press releases.

With its dogged political neutrality, the GAO again urged Congress to develop a long-term plan for a sustainable fiscal future. The auditors said the plan should:

• "Assess the drivers of the primary deficit, such as mandatory and discretionary spending as well as revenue — including tax expenditures, such as deductions and tax credits."

• Consider alternatives to dysfunctional debt limit crises, like we are now experiencing, including setting a debt limit as part of the budget process and allowing Treasury "to propose a change in the debt limit that would take effect absent congressional disapproval."

• Incorporate rules and goals to manage debt by controlling spending and revenue to meet debt targets.

"Right now, there are no guardrails," Dodaro said. "We have no national policy. How much debt do we want to have? How much do we think we can afford to have?"

But rather than planning ahead, the political debate is framed around how much "to spend in the next year," Dodaro added. "So we're not taking a long-term view."

Politicians are loath to make those difficult decisions.

"Unfortunately, political incentives in Washington are such that most members of Congress want to avoid fiscal policy as much as they can get away with," said David Ditch, a senior policy analyst at the conservative Heritage Foundation. One benefit of the current debt limit debate, he added, is it "forces members to start thinking about" fiscal issues.

That means confronting the significant issues that foster long-term unsustainable deficits, including, Dodaro said, "underlying demographic changes that are driving up health care costs at a time when our population is also aging" and living longer. He expects life expectancy rates "to get closer to normal patterns," following the coronavirus-induced reductions.

Longer lives mean greater Medicare and Social Security costs. "And this is particularly an issue at a time of rising interest rates" that increase the government's cost to borrow money, he added.

But "the fiscal deficit is not the only deficit we face," said Sharon Parrott, president of the liberal Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. "We also have a deficit in the investments that broaden opportunity and improve well-being, including investments in children, workers, marginalized communities, health care and education. Failing to make these kinds of investments keeps our child poverty rate higher than in other wealthy countries, as just one example, with research documenting how this shortchanges their future and the nation's as a whole."

Among the options that the GAO presented to deal with the fiscal dilemma is raising tax collections in a way that won't raise tax rates, which Republicans reject. That's closing the tax gap — the difference between what taxpayers owe and the amount they pay. Last year, officials estimated the net tax gap for 2014-2016 was $428 billion.

"Given the size of the tax gap each year, even modest increases in compliance could yield significant financial benefits and help improve the government's fiscal condition," the GAO reported. "Improving tax enforcement and addressing the tax gap is a persistent issue and is on our High-Risk List."

The GAO has previously recommended "targeted legislative actions to reduce the tax gap," including giving the IRS authority to correct certain errors in information provided by taxpayers and setting professional requirements for tax preparers.

So far, Congress has not acted.

That leaves America without "any national policy or sort of guiding light road map toward what kind of fiscal policy we want to pursue, which would give a lot more certainty to average people, as well as the markets, as well as all those who rely on all the federal government's activities," Dodaro told The Washington Post.

"I think it's a much more prudent way to deal with our issues."

The Washington Post

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Texas attorney general will face impeachment vote Saturday

A state House committee issues 20 articles against Paxton, including bribery

BY MOLLY HENNESSY-FISKE

JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton (R) in November 2021. A Republican-led House panel began investigating Paxton in March, after he requested $3.3 million in taxpayer money to end a lawsuit.

The Texas House plans to vote Saturday on whether to impeach Attorney General Ken Paxton, presaging a potential state Senate trial that could lead to the ouster of one of the fiercest opponents of the Biden administration and an architect of conservative Texas policies adopted by other red states.

A Republican-led House investigating committee this week unanimously recommended impeaching Paxton (R) on 20 articles, including bribery, unfitness for office and abuse of public trust. The committee said it began investigating Paxton in March, after he requested $3.3 million in taxpayer money to end a lawsuit by former staffers who accused him of retaliation.

A memo released Friday by the office of House Speaker Dade Phelan (R), and written by the House committee that investigated Paxton, noted that "we cannot over-emphasize the fact that, but for Paxton's own request for a taxpayer-funded settlement over his wrongful conduct, Paxton would not be facing impeachment by the House."

Paxton, who has been under various investigations for years, has dismissed the House probe as a political attack by Phelan, accused him of presiding over the chamber drunk last week and called for Phelan's resignation this week. Phelan's office dismissed the accusations as Paxton attempting to "save face."

At a briefing Friday after the memo was released, Paxton derided the "illegal impeachment scheme" as a politically motivated and "deceitful" plot by House members "showcasing their absolute contempt for the electoral process" and "demonstrating that blind loyalty to Speaker Phelan is more important than their oath of office." He insisted that the House committee unfairly barred him from presenting evidence and defending himself.

He urged supporters to "peacefully come and let their voices be heard" at the Capitol on Saturday.

Paxton noted that he has sued President Biden nearly 50 times and warned that impeachment "imperils critical litigation my office has brought" as recently as this week. But he also seemed to anticipate a Senate trial, saying he looked forward to a quick resolution there "where I truly believe the process will be fair and just."

The House committee, which has three Republicans and two Democrats, exercised a power that has been rarely used in Texas. Only two officials in Texas's nearly 200-year history have been impeached: the governor in 1917 and a district judge in 1975, said Mark Jones, a political science professor at Houston's Rice University.

If Paxton is impeached by the House, he would be suspended from office immediately, as the state Senate weighs his fate. Gov. Greg Abbott, a fellow Republican who has worked closely with Paxton, could appoint a temporary replacement. By law, Abbott does not have the power to pardon Paxton if he's impeached. Abbott's office did not respond to a request for comment Friday.

The messy public battle to impeach Paxton revealed a schism in the state's normally disciplined GOP, which has full control of the levers of power in the state. Texas GOP Chair Matt Rinaldi called the impeachment effort a "sham" and castigated Phelan for attacking Paxton after his recent reelection and "trying to overturn the election results."

"The impeachment proceedings against the Attorney General are but the latest front in the Texas House's war against Republicans to stop the conservative direction of our state," Rinaldi said Friday in a statement on Twitter, accusing Phelan of "empowering Democrats, allowing them to hold leadership positions and control the agenda." Paxton retweeted the statement.

Underscoring Paxton's role as a national bulwark against the Biden administration and for former president Donald Trump, Donald Trump Jr. tweeted in defense of the embattled attorney general on Friday.

"What the RINOs in the Texas State House are trying to do to America First patriot Ken Paxton is a disgrace," he tweeted. "MAGA stands with @KenPaxtonTX against this RINO/Dem led witch hunt!!!"

Former Trump White House aide Stephen Miller also retweeted Rinaldi's statement on Friday. "We must all stand with @KenPaxtonTX — no AG has battled harder against Biden's lawless assault on our constitution," he wrote.

As attorney general since 2015, when he succeeded Abbott, Paxton has been at the forefront of culture-war battles with Democrats, including defending state abortion restrictions and fighting Biden's immigration policies.

Last year, Paxton issued a legal opinion that providing youths with gender-affirming treatments was child abuse, and Texas began investigating the parents of transgender children. (Judges disagreed and blocked the investigations.)

More recently, Paxton announced investigations into doctors in Austin and Houston providing minors with gender-affirming care. Texas legislators banned such care last week.

In a primary last year, he defeated former Texas land commissioner George P. Bush, nephew and grandson of former presidents, 68 to 32 percent.

State Rep. Steve Toth (R), who endorsed Paxton's reelection, decried the House impeachment process as "ridiculous" in an interview with The Washington Post, noting that according to Friday's memo, he and other members won't be able to question witnesses or review evidence beyond what the committee saw, which he dismissed as "hearsay."

> *"The impeachment proceedings against the Attorney General are but the latest front in the Texas House's war against Republicans to stop the conservative direction of our state."*
>
> **Texas GOP Chair Matt Rinaldi**

"We need an attorney general that's going to defend us from some of the outrageous things the Biden administration is doing," Toth said, citing Paxton's pending legal battles over abortion, immigration, transgender rights, the Keystone XL pipeline and redistricting.

Asked by members of the House's ultraconservative Freedom Caucus about the pending vote, Phelan said they would not be able to question witnesses and "will have access to the evidence presented to the committee." He referred further questions to state Rep. Andrew Murr (R), who chaired the investigative committee.

Murr did not return calls Friday, and Phelan's office declined to comment.

On Friday, state Rep. Matt Schaefer (R) posted a statement on Twitter saying he had "grave concerns" with the process.

"I publicly opposed Ken Paxton's reelection in the Republican primary, and I called out his very serious moral and legal failings," Schaefer said. "But if it is right to impeach Ken Paxton, it is being done in the wrong way." He said he planned to vote against impeachment "because I do not have confidence in the procedure."

The House investigative committee has broad power to investigate state officials for wrongdoing, and three weeks ago the House acted on its recommendation and expelled state Rep. Bryan Slaton (R) for inappropriate sexual conduct with a 19-year-old legislative aide he had supplied with alcohol.

The 149-member House has 64 Democrats and 85 Republicans. It was unclear whether Phelan can muster the necessary support from about a dozen fellow Republicans to reach the majority needed for impeachment. Paxton served in the House for 10 years and in the Senate for two years before becoming attorney general.

"Phelan has enough supporters that combined with the Democrats, they have at least the minimum number to pass articles of impeachment," said Gilberto Hinojosa, chair of the Texas Democratic Party. "The Senate's a different story. We're not really sure what's going to happen there."

Final removal would require a two-thirds vote by the Texas Senate, which has 19 Republicans and a dozen Democrats. Paxton's wife, Angela, is a Republican senator entitled to vote.

If the Senate votes to impeach, Paxton would be permanently removed from office.

According to Texas law, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, a Paxton ally, would preside over the Senate trial but not vote.

The Senate would schedule the trial, possibly pausing or reconvening after the legislative session ends Monday. During the trial, the Senate can request documents, witnesses and testimony; meet privately for deliberations; and exercise "any other powers necessary," according to state law.

Patrick did not respond to requests for comment or speak publicly in support of Paxton this week.

"I can't say a word about it," Patrick said of Paxton's potential impeachment during an interview with a Dallas television station late Thursday. "The members will do their duty."

Since the prospect of Paxton's impeachment emerged Wednesday, none of Texas's other top Republicans have spoken out in support of him.

"No Republican wants to be out on an island supporting impeachment," said Jones, with Rice University. "But if the wave goes the other way, no one wants to be supporting someone who doesn't have the confidence of other Republicans."

Paxton has been a powerful player in the party's conservative wing, a staunch ally selected to help lead Trump's state campaign for 2024.

Paxton and his wife appeared at the pro-Trump rally in Washington on Jan. 6, 2021, that preceded the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol. He led a failed attempt to overturn the 2020 presidential election, joining other GOP attorneys general in a lawsuit seeking to invalidate Biden's swing state victories.

Paxton was simultaneously under FBI investigation over accusations that he used his office to help a donor. He was separately indicted on federal securities fraud charges in 2015 but has yet to stand trial. The scandals and criminal investigations increasingly made him "an embarrassment" to Abbott, Jones said. But voters have continued to support Paxton at the ballot box and in polls.

The Texas Constitution does not specify what constitutes impeachable offenses, but it mentions impeachment in connection with criminal offenses. By law, a Texas official can't be removed from office for an act committed before their election to office, a provision Paxton and his defenders have seized upon, since he was just reelected last year, well after accusations were made against him.

The articles of impeachment issued by the investigative committee stem largely from Paxton's relationship years ago with one of his wealthy donors. They deal largely with Paxton's alleged efforts over the years to protect the donor from an FBI investigation and his attempts to thwart whistleblower complaints by his staff.

"This isn't a partisan issue. This level of public corruption should be opposed by everyone," Democratic state Rep. Gene Wu said.

Wu said he planned to vote for impeachment, and expected both fellow Democrats and a significant number of Republicans would, too — more than a majority of the House, he said. Wu said the governor's and lieutenant governor's silence "should raise red flags" that Paxton's support had waned.

"This is a matter of public trust. This is a matter of protecting our own democracy," Wu said. "There are some things we need to do for the integrity of the state, the integrity of the republic. I am confident there are enough people here who are going to do the right thing."

POLITICS & THE NATION

LSU standout Reese helps FLOTUS get out of foul trouble

The Lady Tigers visit White House weeks after first lady's faux pas

BY KARA VOGHT

The crowd gathered in the East Room of the White House seemed to hold its breath as Angel Reese maneuvered past her teammates toward a mahogany table where two Louisiana State University basketball jerseys lay folded.

Which jersey would Reese, the star of LSU's women's team, choose to deliver? Would she take a jersey to President Biden, or would Reese opt for the jersey reserved for first lady Jill Biden, with whom Reese had publicly feuded for days after she led the Lady Tigers to their first-ever national championship?

Reese raised the white jersey and held it like a banner toward the room. “FLOTUS” it said on the back, with a big purple “46” embroidered with yellow stitching.

Applause gave way to a collective “awww” as Reese, even taller than her usual 6-foot-3 in a pair of tippy heels, bent halfway over to give the 5-foot-5 Jill a hug.

For a sports-loving first lady who had found herself embroiled in the rare political fracas, Reese's gesture was a meaningful assist.

ELIZABETH FRANTZ FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Louisiana State University women's basketball team co-captain Angel Reese hugs first lady Jill Biden after presenting Biden with a jersey during an event celebrating the Lady Tigers' 2022-2023 NCAA championship season in the East Room of the White House on Friday.

The first lady committed a technical foul last month when she suggested that the Iowa Hawkeyes, whom LSU thoroughly spanked in the title game, might have nevertheless earned an invite to the White House, too. “I know we'll have the champions come to the White House, we always do,” she said in extemporaneous remarks after the game. “So, we hope LSU will come. But, you know, I'm going to tell Joe I think Iowa should come, too, because they played such a good game.” Reese, who earned the tournament's most outstanding player honors, rebuffed the first lady's eagerness to reward both sides. “A JOKE,” Reese tweeted in response to Biden's suggestion.

The Lady Tigers had been wary of the Biden White House even before the first lady's post-game gaffe. President Biden's March Madness bracket had not flattered the underdog team's potential, leading LSU to decline Jill Biden's offer to visit their locker room before the championship game, according to Reese. (“He didn't even put us on his bracket to get out of Baton Rouge,’ ” she said.) There was also an impression that Iowa, a mostly White team, had received more favorable media coverage than LSU, a mostly Black team — especially the criticism of Reese's use of the same taunting gesture that one of her White Iowa opponents had used in an earlier game. In that context, the first lady's spontaneous idea to celebrate both teams exacerbated an undercurrent of disrespect. “If we were to lose,” Reese later said on a podcast, “we would not be getting invited to the White House.”

The White House rushed back on defense. A spokesperson for the first lady said that Biden's comments “were intended to applaud the historic game” and recognize “how far women have advanced in sports since the passing of Title IX.” By Friday of that week, President Biden made the unusual move to call Reese individually to congratulate her on her victory. Reese eventually agreed to attend the ceremony — but not before she dug in more deeply. “We'll go to the Obamas,” she said on the podcast. “I'm gonna see Michelle. I'm gonna see Barack.”

Awkward! But not unprecedented. Lately the Obamas have been a refuge of sports champions who are unimpressed with the White House's more recent occupants. Receptions for America's sports champions became especially fraught occasions during Donald Trump's presidency: Few teams accepted Trump's invitations to celebrate with him. Some never received invites, while others had theirs revoked. (The 2017 Super Bowl champions, the Philadelphia Eagles, memorably had their event replaced with a “Celebration of America” party on the White House lawn after some players spoke out against the president's criticism of players who took a knee during the national anthem.) The Golden State Warriors, NBA champions twice during Trump's presidency, rejected opportunities to celebrate at the White House and met with Obama instead.

“I keep thinking about how far women's sports have come. ... As I watched, I felt the history of that moment — of all the women before you who dared to be fast and furious, who ignored the critics and just played.”

First lady Jill Biden

The 44th president had spent most of his high school basketball career as a benchwarmer but nevertheless played a pickup game with the NBA's biggest stars for his 50th birthday, including Magic Johnson, LeBron James and Chris Paul. (Not to say certain athletes didn't skip out on him, too: Baltimore Ravens offensive lineman Matt Birk declined to join his team to celebrate their 2013 Super Bowl win in protest of Obama's position on abortion rights, and Boston Bruins goalie Tim Thomas, a staunch tea party conservative, refused his team's 2012 Stanley Cup visit.)

Championship celebrations haven't lost their political patina under Biden, but that's because players' politics have more aligned with his. When the Milwaukee Bucks came to the White House to celebrate their 2021 NBA championship win, for example, Biden thanked them for inspiring the leaguewide shutdown to protest the 2020 police shooting of Jacob Blake in Kenosha, Wis. The Golden State Warriors held a roundtable on gun violence, a pet issue of coach Steve Kerr, during their championship visit earlier this year. Many professional and college sports teams have not been invited to celebrate their championship victories, according to Politico.

But the Lady Tigers were here, despite everything. The first lady spoke first, approaching the lectern in a suit the same hue as LSU's signature purple. “I keep thinking about how far women's sports have come,” Jill Biden said, an echo of the comments she made in the aftermath of her initial faux pas. “As I watched, I felt the history of that moment — of all the women before you who dared to be fast and furious, who ignored the critics and just played.”

She made no reference to her earlier remarks nor Reese's criticism; instead, she complimented Reese for shattering major records and said of the team that “in this room, I see the best of the best.”

Vice President Harris praised the players for how they conducted themselves on and off the court. “You represent your teammates, your school and your community with dignity and with respect,” she said. “You showed the world who you are. You are leaders, you are role models.”

Reese stood square to the crowd in the front row among her teammates huddled on risers like a church choir. She wore a tight smile and offered polite golf claps at each applause line, showing the most enthusiasm when the president complimented her for driving up ticket prices. “The cost of tickets went up 10 times,” he said. “And more than the men's games.”

The only moment of drama: When one of LSU's freshman forwards fainted on the stage, collapsing onto her teammates before hitting the floor. “We leave our mark wherever we go,” LSU head coach Kim Mulkey joked before assuring the crowd her player would be fine. (A few EMTs rolled a stretcher into the White House roughly 20 minutes after the ceremony concluded.)

Near the end of his remarks, President Biden lamented that 95 percent of sports stories are still written about male athletes. “It's not an issue here, though — not with this team,” he said, laughing. Reese gave a knowing smirk as a wave of quiet snickers carried across the room.

CDC says at least 181 people infected with covid-19 after April conference

Agency is encouraging attendees of upcoming June meeting to mask up

BY LENA H. SUN

The tally of people infected with the coronavirus after attending a high-profile Centers for Disease Control and Prevention conference in April has risen to at least 181, the agency reported Friday. No one was hospitalized.

The CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service officers and alumni — the disease detectives deployed to identify and fight outbreaks — met April 24-27 at an Atlanta hotel. The conference drew 1,800 in-person attendees, the first in-person Epidemic Intelligence Service gathering in four years. Like many conferences, it was crowded, with much face-to-face contact, many events held in small rooms and lots of socializing, according to attendees. About 70 percent of participants who responded to a CDC survey said they did not wear masks at the event.

The outbreak of covid-19 cases at the conference underscores the persistence of an evolving and highly infectious virus.

Another CDC global health meeting is scheduled for the same hotel in early June; about 300 to 400 people are expected to attend in person, said one CDC employee who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak.

In a “Know Before You Go” document shared with The Washington Post, CDC organizers encourage attendees at the June conference to wear their “own high-quality masks and, if possible, also carry covid-19 rapid tests with them.” Organizers of the second conference were informed about the covid outbreak at the earlier event, CDC spokeswoman Kristen Nordlund said. The agency will have masks available if employees want to wear one, she said.

With in-person conferences and summer travel underway, infectious-disease experts say the CDC event is a reminder that the coronavirus is not going away.

“This outbreak dramatically illustrates that if the circumstances are right, this virus can really spread to a lot of people,” said William Schaffner, an infectious-disease doctor at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. One of his colleagues attended the April CDC conference, and even though the person had a mild illness, like many others at the event, “these were people who were quite discomforted for several days,” Schaffner said.

Covid-19 hospitalizations and deaths have fallen dramatically because of immunity conferred by vaccines and prior infections, public health experts have said. Tracking viral circulation or cases has become problematic because many Americans are testing at home, or not all. The end of the public health emergency on May 11 also meant cases and positive test results stopped being reported to the CDC.

The virus can cause significant illness, primarily in unvaccinated people, older adults, people with underlying health conditions and those with weakened immune systems. Among the 181 who were sickened at the CDC conference, the median age was 38, nearly all were younger than 65 and two-thirds were women, Nordlund said. No severe illnesses were reported.

Jeffrey Duchin, health officer for Seattle and surrounding King County, said four members of his team attended the conference. Two wore high-quality masks reliably, he wrote in an email. Of the two who did not, one was sickened by the virus.

“In my view, [Epidemic Intelligence Service] and other conference organizers should take reasonable steps to decrease the risk to participants by optimizing venue indoor air quality . . . opting for outdoor venues when possible, minimizing crowding, and providing N95 and KN95 masks for those who want to reduce their risk,” Duchin said.

“At a minimum, I think it would be useful for conference organizers to inform participants of what steps are being taken to reduce the risk for COVID-19 transmission, so that participants can make informed risk assessments about any additional steps they may want to take, like masking.”

At a large travel industry conference that drew nearly 5,000 attendees in San Antonio this week, delegates were told they could choose to wear a face mask. “Please respect the decision of attendees who choose to be masked,” said health and safety guidance that was provided.

Greg Staley, senior vice president for communications at the U.S. Travel Association, the conference organizer, said no cases of covid-19 have been reported.

To unravel the cluster of cases tied to the April CDC conference, the agency conducted a May 5-12 survey of in-person attendees, with more than 80 percent responding. Of those who reported testing positive, 52 percent said they had no known prior coronavirus infection. More than 99 percent of respondents had at least one dose of a coronavirus vaccine. About one-fourth of those who tested positive received antiviral medication.

The risk of infection was 70 percent greater among those who attended three or more days compared with those attending two or fewer days, an agency statement said.

The CDC statement said the findings support data that coronavirus vaccines, antiviral treatments and immunity from previous infection continue to provide people with protection against serious illness. It did not reference masking.

DIGEST

INDIANA

Board fines doctor for discussing abortion

Indiana's medical licensing board decided late Thursday to discipline a doctor who made headlines last year for performing an abortion for a 10-year-old Ohio rape victim, saying she violated state and federal privacy laws by discussing the case with a reporter. The board gave Caitlin Bernard, an OB/GYN and an assistant professor at the Indiana University School of Medicine, a letter of reprimand and ordered her to pay a $3,000 fine for violating ethical standards.

The board cleared Bernard on two other counts, determining that she did not improperly report child abuse and that she is fit to practice medicine.

For nearly a year, Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita (R) pursued punishment for Bernard, who carried out the abortion in June, less than a week after *Roe v. Wade* was struck down, enacting trigger laws.

Bernard broke patient privacy laws by telling an Indianapolis Star reporter about the patient's care, the board decided Thursday after a roughly 14-hour hearing that ended shortly after 11:30 p.m. Bernard's lawyers argued that she properly reported the incident to an Indiana University Health social worker and did not run afoul of privacy laws when she discussed the patient's case in a general and “deidentified” manner that is typical for doctors.

Records obtained by The Washington Post last year show that Bernard reported the girl's abortion to the relevant state agencies ahead of the legally mandated deadline, which the board agreed with Thursday night, clearing her of a charge related to that issue.

In statements late Thursday and Friday, Rokita and Bernard's attorneys each framed the board's decision as a victory.

—Kim Bellware and Dan Rosenzweig-Ziff

CALIFORNIA

Man exonerated after 33 years in prison

A California man was freed Thursday after recently uncovered evidence showed that he was not at the scene of a 1989 shooting that led to his conviction on six charges of attempted murder and a prison stint that lasted 33 years.

Daniel Saldana was sentenced to 45 years in prison after he was one of three men convicted of shooting at a car containing six high school students who were mistaken for gang members in Baldwin Park, Calif., on Oct. 27, 1989, according to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. Two of the students were wounded, and all survived.

But the conviction of Saldana, who had always denied that he was involved, was reexamined by prosecutors in late February, after the district attorney's office said it was given a copy of a 2017 parole hearing detailing how the man “was not involved in the shooting in any way and was not present.” The end of the investigation led Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón (D) to announce that “Saldana was innocent of the crimes he was convicted of and for which he spent over 33 years in prison.”

At the time of the Baldwin Park shooting, Saldana was 22 and working full time as a construction worker.

Saldana's exoneration is the latest recent case in which someone has been exonerated after decades in prison. A database from the National Registry of Exonerations shows that the 17 longest wrongful-conviction cases in U.S. history have happened in the past decade.

— Timothy Bella

Monthly quotas lead to high rates of rejections, critics say

SOCIAL SECURITY FROM **A1**

Federal judges have complained of legal errors, inaccurate assessments of whether claimants can work, failures to consider medical evidence and factual mistakes, according to court rulings and Social Security's own data. The scathing opinions have come from district and appellate court judges across the political spectrum, from conservatives appointed by President Ronald Reagan to liberal appointees of President Barack Obama.

Northern California District Judge Susan Illston, appointed by President Bill Clinton, wrote in January that a disability claim denied by Social Security that ignored key physician records was "so vague as to be essentially unreviewable." The judge reversed the decision and ordered the agency to pay benefits to the claimant, a woman who suffers from delusions, depressive disorder and schizophrenia.

Approval rates for benefits are down at every level of review, Social Security data show, even as the number of disabled people applying dwindled during the coronavirus pandemic. Fewer than 20 percent of those who lose their appeal at Social Security take their claim to federal court, as most lack the time or resources to keep fighting.

"The system has become one of 'how do we deny this claim' rather than 'what is the right answer in this person's case?'" said Ann Atkinson, Sheldon's attorney outside Denver. "And the federal court is agreeing with us: 'You have to do a better job.'"

The high rate of rejections for cases handled by administrative law judges and the attorneys who write their decisions is driven by stringent monthly quotas set by Social Security officials and growing pressure to deny more cases, according to current and former officials, audits and attorneys who represent the disabled. The agency's policies have been reshaped to give less deference to the expertise of doctors who, in some cases, have treated claimants for years, and its policies routinely depart from federal appellate court rulings.

The result has been an unmistakable shift to an adversarial disability system, advocates for the disabled claim: Rather than calling the case down the middle, they say, Social Security has stacked the cards against the approximately 2 million people each year who apply for help when they can no longer work.

Yet federal judges rarely order the agency to approve claims in deference to the government, but instead must typically refer the cases back to the administrative law judges — often the very ones responsible for the errors in the first place, a common practice in administrative law that avoids asking a new judge to rehear a complicated claim. Only about half of the agency judges assigned to rehear cases they initially denied reverse those rulings, prolonging the cycle of appeals and new remands for disabled claimants, few of whom have means to support themselves, a Washington Post analysis found.

"Some of them just dig in and say, 'I'm going to find a way to deny this claim again,'" said Steven Weiss, regional managing attorney at Bay Area Legal Aid in Oakland, Calif.

Nicole Tiggemann, a Social Security spokeswoman, disputed that the system has overly tilted against disabled people.

"The agency evaluates the totality of the evidence and decides cases based upon the issues and evidence in the particular case," she wrote in an email. "The process has always been and continues to be non-adversarial."

Yet the rate of cases remanded to the agency from federal judges has long been a source of alarm inside Social Security, current and former officials said. For the last decade, roughly half of all cases that made it to federal courts have been sent back. Under a law known as the Equal Access to Justice Act, the government paid attorneys of claimants who prevailed in federal court $68 million in fiscal 2022, the largest number of awards of any federal agency and more than triple the sum a decade ago, data from the Administrative Conference of the United States shows.

"It's absolutely much higher than it should be," said Asheesh Agarwal, Social Security's chief lawyer during the first two years of the Trump administration. Given the stakes for disabled people and taxpayers, he argued, administrative law judges must do a better job deciding cases. "There's a lot of money at stake when you think of a grant of lifetime benefits."

COREY ROBINSON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Michael Sheldon of Cortez, Colo., suffered severe injuries after his road-paving truck flipped on the job in 2006, hurling him headfirst toward a mound of boulders. He waited 14 years for disability benefits.

Social Security spokesman Mark Hinkle in an email defended the system, noting that disability decisions appealed to federal court "constitute a very small fraction of the overall decisions issued by the agency."

Hinkle acknowledged that "despite our consistent efforts to ensure quality decisions, the federal courts may remand decisions for further action." He said that since courts rarely reverse the decisions of Social Security judges outright, "the agency is not directed to issue a decision in favor of the claimant" but must only "consider" new evidence — circumstances like age, a changed medical condition "and any specific action or analysis directed by the court."

While Social Security officials defend the rate of court remands, current and former officials said that the agency's own lawyers are increasingly admitting error before proceedings begin in federal court. Government attorneys frequently ask district courts to remand an appeal before the claimant's attorney submits a written brief, a practice that spiked during the pandemic as the agency fell behind.

"They recognize right away that some of these cases aren't defensible," said Cody Marvin, a Chicago-based disability attorney who frequently takes cases to federal court. He estimated that 40 percent of the claims his firm appeals to district court judges are returned to Social Security in what are known as voluntary remands. The numbers vary by state, but Social Security acknowledges some degree of error in at least 15 percent of cases, officials said.

Administrative law judges and their representatives also acknowledge that the system is flawed. Som Ramrup, president of the organization that represents 1,084 Social Security judges not in management, cited the sustained imposition of monthly case quotas as the "number one reason" behind the high rate of remands. Each judge schedules up to 600 cases a year, according to Ramrup and other administrative law judges.

"The judges strive to issue quality decisions, but they certainly are encouraged to rush," Ramrup said. "When you're rushing, it's not going to be perfect. It's a business decision [by the agency] to say, 'that's an acceptable remand rate to us.'"

Disabled claimants, meanwhile, can spend years battling for benefits, only to see victories in federal court rejected by Social Security after follow-up administrative proceedings. After a Colorado district court found in 2020 that an administrative law judge had erred in denying benefits to Heather Fowler, her claim was returned to the same judge — who reached the same conclusion after a second hearing.

"It should not be this hard to help people get what they need," said Fowler, 47, of Yuma, Colo., who has been unable to work after a diagnosis of dissociative identity disorder that she said arose from years of physical abuse as a child.

A system on the edge

The disability system has relied since the 1950s on administrative law judges, who were meant to serve as impartial factfinders in disputes over decisions on claims for benefits. These judges adjudicate disputes in government programs, operating outside the federal judiciary as they work directly for more than two dozen agencies. Their trial-like hearings are supposed to be free from agency coercion or influence. A law degree is required for the job.

The largest share work at Social Security, which has 1,200 judges, including managers, with salaries ranging from $146,000 to $195,000. Unlike in standard courts, their hearings are closed to the public.

Administrative law judges must hear and make complex decisions in disability cases in less than three hours on average, Ramrup said. The role is complicated by the relatively subjective rules used to award benefits. While the judges ultimately answer to Social Security and do not enjoy the independence of the federal judiciary, they have chafed for years at a system that subjects them to scrutiny over how many claims they approve.

Two decades ago, Social Security judges were relatively generous, approving 70 percent of appeals in 2001 — a high point. But that changed after an explosive corruption case broke open in 2012, when a Kentucky lawyer was found to have defrauded taxpayers in a $600 million disability benefits scheme. The crime led to new congressional oversight and pressure to deny more claims, according to federal audits, attorneys and current and former Social Security employees.

Approval rates plummeted to 45 percent for several years, rising to 51 percent last year, agency data shows. Some administrative law judges who approved high numbers of cases found themselves under new scrutiny, a practice that accelerated during the Trump administration as political appointees took a hard line against paying claims, current and former judges and other officials said.

Jonathan Baird, an administrative law judge in the Lawrence, Mass., hearing office, said an agency review in 2020 warned that his pay rate of about 70 percent — which had never before caused concern — was "a huge red flag." He said he was told to rely less on medical opinions from claimants' treating doctors about whether they are disabled and more on treatment notes. These reviews had a chilling effect on his colleagues, Baird said. "They were out to get high-paying judges," he said, referring to colleagues with high approval rates.

Other Social Security judges with similar rulings have been forced out. Michael Blanton, 63, a Seattle-based judge who approved between 89 and 93 percent of his cases from 2016 through 2020, was placed on administrative leave in 2021, then told he was being fired over alleged performance shortfalls. Before his dismissal, "I was never informed of any these issues," said Blanton, who is challenging his firing, calling the reasons cited a pretext to attack his record of approving benefits.

Social Security officials declined to comment on specific judges or how widespread these reviews are today. The agency "monitors performance to ensure that decisions are consistent with [Social Security] policy, including regulations and rulings," Hinkle wrote. "We provide feedback to [administrative law judges] regarding the quality of their decisions."

More than a decade ago, Social Security also imposed production quotas on judges to help address a historic backlog of appeals prompted by the Great Recession and a wave of baby boomers applying for benefits. But even after the logjam cleared, management continued to demand that judges hear and decide about 50 cases a month, Ramrup said. The bottleneck shifted to initial claims during the coronavirus pandemic, leaving fewer cases in the pipeline of appeals.

Given these caseloads, administrative law judges rely heavily on mid-level attorneys to draft their decisions. Known as decision writers, they face production quotas, too. It's a high-turnover job that requires years to become proficient. Training suffered during the pandemic, said Spencer Bishins, who left in 2021 after a decade as a decision writer, then wrote a book about why it is so hard to win disability benefits.

"I've read a lot of very bad decisions," Bishins recalled, "because the agency squeezes the [decision writers] so much."

"The decisions are getting worse with fewer cases," he added. "Shouldn't they be getting better?"

Claims for disability benefits have declined from almost 3 million at the peak of the recession to 1.8 million last year, dropping during the pandemic when Social Security's in-person operations ceased, its phones jammed and many claimants could not get help on its website.

The Government Accountability Office found in 2021 that the expectation that administrative law judges would hear and decide hundreds of appeals a year did not balance "timely case processing while maintaining high-quality work and employee morale."

In response, Social Security hired a contractor to review the workloads, GAO reported, but told auditors in March that "Its long-standing expectations [of its judges] are reasonable." Hinkle said production demands are necessary to "quality public service" and "effective docket management and time management skills in a high-volume environment."

In recent years, the demands on administrative law judges have become more onerous as claimants have been required to submit more medical evidence, with records that can now run as large as 3,000 pages. The volume can result in more scrutiny when a case reaches a district court, whose staff has more time to review if the Social Security judge paid attention to the evidence, officials said.

Administrative law judges must often weigh medical evidence to determine if someone can still work despite their limitations, and if there are jobs they can still do. Their decisions fall into gray areas that require judgment calls rare in other safety-net programs, experts said.

But Social Security has also tilted the scales in recent years away from key medical evidence, critics say, in another sign of the shift toward granting fewer claims. While administrative law judges once based much of their decision on evidence from primary care doctors or psychiatrists who best understood their patients' medical issues, that policy changed in 2017. Now judges are free to disregard the opinions of these treating physicians and rely heavily instead on contracted doctors who examine claimants for as little as 15 minutes, according to claimants, their attorneys and former Social Security employees. This often leads to shoddy records and poor decisions, federal courts have found.

Social Security officials said they changed the rules "to focus more on the content and reliability of medical opinions and less on who the treatment source is," a system they say helps courts "better assess whether substantial evidence supports the decision" to grant benefits. The agency's regulations also emphasize that outside doctors spend "sufficient time" examining claimants, officials said.

In recent years, other agency rules have also made it harder on applicants to prove their cases. Less weight is given to certain musculoskeletal conditions, for example. IQ tests that show mental impairments do not automatically grant benefits. Evidence can be excluded if a claimant submits it too close to a hearing. If someone applying for benefits cannot communicate in English, that language barrier is no longer a factor considered in awarding benefits under a rule change enacted in 2020. Critics of the agency contend that its administrative decisions are often at odds with precedents set by federal appeals courts, citing, for instance, its refusal to be bound by a 2017 ruling giving substantial weight to Veterans Affairs disability ratings.

The Supreme Court has allowed vocational experts to refuse to disclose how they come up with jobs a claimant could still do or how many exist in the economy. An internal panel that must consider appeals before they go to federal court sent just 12 percent back to administrative law judges last year.

These policies have exasperated federal judges.

"Social Security has attempted by regulation to authorize its judges' decisions to be of lower quality in the eyes of a federal court," said David Camp, president of the National Organization of Social Security Claimants' Representatives.

But the agency cannot totally disregard the testimony of physicians who know claimants the best. That's what happened to a 55-year-old South Carolina woman with severe depression who was denied benefits despite her suicidal ideations, anxiety and other mental impairments. In February, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit ordered the agency to pay benefits outright after finding that Social Security had improperly accorded "little weight" to the testimony of the woman's longtime treating psychiatrist — among other mistakes.

"Given the ALJ's duty to balance the record's evidence, to disregard a 20-year treatment relationship … is a disproportionate response," the judges wrote.

In another South Carolina case, Shanette Rogers, an Army veteran from Myrtle Beach, who was raped twice in the military, waited five years for a ruling from the 4th Circuit in March that her post traumatic stress syndrome justified an award of disability benefits. The appeals court found that Social Security had ignored evidence from her psychiatrist that her symptoms were tied to her menstrual cycle, chronically restricting her ability to work.

"I just feel like I've been really passed along a lot," Rogers, 53, said. "My cycle is a trigger for me. It brings out the demons I'm battling."

Advocates say change is needed at every level of review to shift a culture that encourages Social Security judges to deny claims at the expense of the law.

"Claims must be properly reviewed at the initial application," said George Piemonte, a disability attorney in Charlotte who represents Rogers. "This can be a matter of life or death for a huge proportion of disabled people. Social Security needs to focus its efforts on getting things right in the first instance."

For many claimants, it's easier to walk away than to keep battling.

Sheldon only carried on because, he said, he was entitled to benefits he paid for through payroll taxes during decades as a laborer before his accident. "It's just almost like they're against you from the get go," he said.

At his hearing in March, a new Social Security judge considered the rulings by three federal judges who found that the agency failed to properly consider the severity of his headaches, nerve damage and other impairments by ignoring treatment notes from his doctors. An outside doctor Social Security hired to examine him also described severe "pain and anxiety" from his injuries.

He prepared to wait for months for another rejection.

Instead, the written decision came just two weeks later: Sheldon had been awarded the monthly benefits — along with $205,000 in back pay. His first check landed in his bank account this month.

Boebert dismisses antisemitism push as effort to target conservatives

BY MERYL KORNFIELD

JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-Colo.) attends the Conservative Political Action Conference in Fort Washington, Md., in March.

President Biden on Thursday released the country's first national strategy for combating antisemitism, a landmark lauded by Jewish and anti-hate groups as progress toward addressing the increasing instances of violence and bias toward Jewish people in the United States.

But Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-Colo.) saw the effort as an attack on those of her political persuasion. "When they say stuff like this, they mean they want to go after conservatives," she tweeted. "Their tactics are straight out of the USSR's playbook."

Her comments quickly attracted criticism from detractors who accused her of conflating a straightforward campaign against antisemitism with an assault on the right — and, by implication, equating conservatives with antisemites.

"So you agree? You think you're antisemitic?" Rep. Sara Jacobs (D-Calif.) tweeted in a popular meme format from the teen comedy "Mean Girls."

In response to questions about her tweet, Boebert's office provided a statement equating the anti-hate effort with censorship of free speech and adding that she does not condone antisemitism.

"This is the latest version of this administration's failed 'Ministry of Truth,'" Boebert said in the statement. "The First Amendment guarantees a marketplace of ideas where truth, beauty, and justice ultimately win out."

Deputy White House press secretary Andrew Bates said Boebert was "mistaken." He added that Biden's push against hate defied politics and was rooted in longstanding American values.

"If anyone finds opposition to hate threatening, they need to look inward," Bates said in a statement. "Congresswoman Boebert should also Google the Soviet Union's long, repulsive history of antisemitism. She might find a result for Joe Biden, who at the time decried antisemitic acts by Soviet communists as 'shameful.'"

Rep. Greg Landsman (D-Ohio), who is Jewish, said the goal of fighting antisemitism has nothing to do with targeting conservatives, adding that he would be happy to sit down with Boebert "if she's struggling with any of this."

"Combatting antisemitism isn't an attack on conservatives — it's a denunciation of antisemitism," he said in a statement. "Combatting hate is a priority for both Republicans and Democrats, and it should be for every Member of Congress."

Boebert has a history of controversial and inflammatory statements. In February, she suggested that God used her to stand up to House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.), whom she indirectly referred to as one of her "demons," while speaking at a women's conference at a Dallas church.

Biden on Thursday announced a four-pillar strategy to confront hate in a video address, outlining a plan that includes more than 100 steps for the government to take. The goals include increasing awareness and understanding of antisemitism, ramping up security for Jewish communities, reversing the normalization of discrimination, and improving on collective efforts to counter hate.

"In the past several years, hate has been given too much oxygen, fueling a record rise in antisemitism," Biden said. "It's simply wrong. It's not only wrong, it's immoral, it's unacceptable. It's on all of us to stop it."

The Anti-Defamation League, a group dedicated to fighting anti-Jewish hatred, counted 3,697 antisemitic incidents last year, a 36 percent increase from the previous year and the highest figure since it began keeping records in 1979.

"This is the latest version of this administration's failed 'Ministry of Truth.'"

Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-Colo.), in a statement on the White House's new effort to combat antisemitism

Last month, a trial began for a Pennsylvania man charged with fatally shooting 11 people and wounding two at a Pittsburgh synagogue in 2018, the deadliest antisemitic attack in U.S. history. Authorities said the defendant, Robert D. Bowers, regularly posted antisemitic and white-nationalist diatribes on social media before the killing.

Second gentleman Douglas Emhoff, the first Jewish spouse of a president or vice president, said at Thursday's event that antisemitism threatened to divide the country and erode trust in its institutions.

"Antisemitism delivers simplistic, false, and dangerous narratives that have led to extremists perpetrating deadly violence against Jews," said Emhoff, who has made fighting antisemitism a central part of his role. "It is on all of us to put an end to the visceral hate that we are seeing across our nation. We cannot normalize this."

Biden's plan outlines steps that Congress, state and local governments, tech companies and other businesses, faith leaders, and others can take to combat antisemitism. For instance, it asks tech companies to establish "zero tolerance" policies against antisemitic content on their platforms.

White House officials also touted the scheduled opening next year of the first U.S.-based Holocaust research center as part of the broader effort to increase education about the dangers of antisemitism. Federal agencies are committing to more training around diversity, equity and inclusion to root out workplace discrimination and violence.

A group of more than 25 Jewish organizations applauded Biden's plan, saying in a statement that they "appreciate the clarity and urgency demonstrated by the White House in releasing its National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism."

On Twitter, antisemitic tweets and account creation surged after Elon Musk took over the platform, The Post previously reported.

Rep. Jared Moskowitz (D-Fla.), who is Jewish, has previously said publicly that he has been bombarded with antisemitic messages on Twitter and has called for the platform to beef up its moderation process.

On Friday, he applauded the administration's announcement as "tremendously important," saying it should be welcomed by all Americans no matter their political beliefs.

"No one is interested in going after conservatives — that's ridiculous," Moskowitz said. "We're going after Nazis. And if the fact is that the majority of Nazis are voting for conservatives, then perhaps the better question is: why? Why are a majority of Nazis voting for conservatives? That's a question that they should ask themselves, perhaps."

As N.C. legislature pushes private school vouchers, governor sounds alarm

BY MORIAH BALINGIT

North Carolina Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper warned that GOP-backed proposals to expand a tuition voucher program could devastate the state's public schools by steering public school students and hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars to private and religious schools. This week, Cooper declared an unofficial "state of emergency," saying Republicans are "aiming to choke the life out of public education."

"They want to expand private school vouchers so that anyone — even a millionaire — can get taxpayer money for their children's private academy tuition," Cooper said. "When kids leave public schools for private school, the public schools lose hundreds of millions of dollars."

Lawmakers in the state House and Senate have in the past month passed budget bills that would pour millions more into the voucher program and would simultaneously cut taxes, limiting state revenue that funds public schools. State lawmakers are resolving differences in the bills and will send a single budget bill to the governor's desk shortly. The GOP has enough votes to override the governor's veto, should he reject it.

If the bill becomes law, North Carolina would join a growing group of states that offer taxpayer money to any family that wants to send its children to private schools, part of a conservative movement to fund private and religious education. In the past 12 months, Arizona, Utah, Iowa and Florida have expanded or introduced universal voucher programs. Several other states are considering them. Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt (R) signed a bill Thursday that makes all families eligible for dollar-for-dollar tax deductions for money they spend on private or home schooling.

The recent explosion of universal school voucher legislation has been buoyed by some right-wing criticisms that cast mainstream public schools as immoral and corrosive. Conservative lawmakers and activists have accused teachers of indoctrinating students to left-wing ideologies and stoking social divisions by discussing racism. They also have accused teachers of being "groomers," suggesting that some are priming students to be sexually abused.

The movement has led to book bans, laws that restrict how teachers talk about LGBTQ topics, race and history — and a spate of bills that bolster school choice for parents who think their children need to get out of public schools. Conservative think tanks have encouraged advocates of school vouchers to embrace the culture war, saying polarization over what is taught in classrooms could help push families to pull their children from public schools in favor of other options.

School choice proponents say children should not be confined to their neighborhood public schools — especially if those schools are underperforming or are poor fits for the students.

"The governor has sent the message today that parents should accept keeping their children in schools with abysmal test scores, pornography, and politically charged curriculum," Tami Fitzgerald of NC Values Coalition said in a statement. "Gov. Cooper doesn't know what's best for other people's children, parents are the ones with the God-given rights to direct the upbringing and education of their children."

North Carolina's tuition voucher, spelled out in House and Senate budget bills, would make virtually any family in the state that wants to send children to private school eligible for an annual tuition voucher of up to $7,200 per child, although the House and Senate proposals both earmark some funding just for low-income students.

The existing voucher program is limited to low- and middle-income families that, in many cases, might not be able to afford private schools. Under the expansion, even the state's wealthiest families would be eligible for help. A state budget analysis said the program could cost public schools up to $200 million between the third and fourth years of its implementation.

Cooper and other critics raised concerns over funding education at private schools that are free to deliver religious instruction and are not bound by the same civil rights laws or state academic standards as public schools. Critics say this leaves the schools free to discriminate against LGBTQ students, for example, or to require parents who send their children to a school to be religious devotees.

Meanwhile, backers of the voucher program cheered the passage of the bills, saying they would make it easier for North Carolina families that choose private school to afford tuition. State Rep. Tricia Cotham was elected as a Democrat but switched to the Republican Party last month, partially over the Democrats' opposition to school choice. Her new allegiance to Republicans means they now have enough votes to override a veto by the governor, a power that paved the way for new abortion restrictions this month and is likely to smooth the path for other conservative measures.

Both bills increase education funding and teacher pay, but not to the extent that public school advocates had hoped. The state is embroiled in a decades-long lawsuit filed in the 1990s that alleged that state funding for some school districts was so poor that it violated the civil rights of students. Last month, a state superior court judge ruled that the state owed nearly $700 million to schools for this school year. State lawmakers have challenged the ruling.

The school voucher plan "moves us backwards at a time when the legislature is ignoring their obligation to fund the schools constitutionally," said Kristopher Nordstrom, a senior policy analyst with the North Carolina Justice Center who works on education issues.

Superintendent Marvin Connelly of Cumberland County Schools said his district could lose more than $17 million if the bill is passed. His district is home to the U.S. Army's Fort Bragg and serves upward of 15,000 children from military families. He said he worries about the legislation's effect in the school district.

"It impacts our ability to serve our military families," he said.

Judge pauses six-week abortion ban in S.C. so state high court can review

BY KIM BELLWARE

A South Carolina judge on Friday moved to pause the state's six-week abortion ban until it can be reviewed by the state Supreme Court.

Judge Clifton Newman of the South Carolina Circuit Court granted a temporary injunction Friday morning, barely 24 hours after Gov. Henry McMaster (R) signed the measure into law.

Planned Parenthood South Atlantic, along with a South Carolina clinic and two of its doctors, immediately filed a lawsuit Thursday to block the ban that took immediate effect with McMaster's signature.

Friday's injunction means abortion access in South Carolina reverts back to being legal up to 22 weeks of pregnancy.

"The status quo should be maintained until the Supreme Court reviews its decision," Newman said, according to the Associated Press. "It's going to end up there."

Planned Parenthood called the injunction a "welcome reprieve."

"While we have a long fight ahead, we will not stop until our patients are again free to make their own decisions about their bodies and futures," Jenny Black, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood South Atlantic, said in a statement.

Shortly after news of the injunction, McMaster vowed in a statement to continue fighting for the law and said he hopes the Supreme Court "will take this matter up without delay."

In a Thursday news release, McMaster said the state was "ready to defend this legislation against any challenges and are confident we will succeed."

"The right to life must be preserved, and we will do everything we can to protect it," McMaster said in the release.

The law, which the Republican-led South Carolina Senate passed by a vote of 27-19 on Tuesday, includes exceptions for the patient's life and health, and for fatal fetal anomalies. It also permits abortion at up to 12 weeks in the case of rape or incest. Doctors who violate it would lose their license and face potential civil lawsuits, felony charges, a fine of up to $10,000 and two years in jail.

SAM WOLFE/REUTERS

Protesters inside the South Carolina State House in August 2022. The state's Supreme Court is now set to review its abortion laws.

The bill is the state's second recent six-week abortion ban. The first, which passed in 2021, was blocked under federal law but later took effect after the U.S. Supreme Court in June struck down federal abortion protections from *Roe v. Wade*. That six-week ban was in effect barely a month and a half before the state Supreme Court temporarily blocked it. In January, the high court struck down the law, calling it "an unreasonable restriction upon a woman's right to privacy."

But the makeup of South Carolina's Supreme Court has changed since it last reviewed a six-week abortion ban. In January, the court had a single female justice, Kaye Hearn, who wrote the lead opinion striking down the ban from 2021. It was Hearn's last opinion from the bench before she hit the mandatory retirement age weeks later.

South Carolina is one of two states (the other is Virginia) where the legislature selects Supreme Court justices. Earlier this year, the legislature selected Republican Gary Hill as Hearn's replacement, making the state's highest court entirely male.

Sandy Senn, one of five women in the state Senate, was among the few Republicans to oppose the six-week ban. She previously told The Washington Post that it would alienate more moderate voters and criticized the measure as an example of the overwhelmingly male Senate exerting control over women. In a text message Friday, Senn said she expected the quick injunction but was less optimistic about what the state Supreme Court will do.

"As far as the Supreme Court's ultimate ruling, given that we have now reverted to the only state in the nation with an all-male high bench the outcome is anybody's guess," Senn said. "Ultimately, the federal government needs to step in to ensure uniformity for women nationwide."

It's unclear whether the state's high court will again find privacy rights a compelling reason to strike the current six-week abortion ban. Senn said that regardless of whatever legal theory the court may use, South Carolina voters strongly favor abortion access — mostly at the first trimester — a fact she said the "overwhelmingly White male legislators in the chamber" are aware of.

That is why she says they refuse to put the issue to voters.

"They know what the outcome would be; they cannot control the voters in the same way they wish to control women, so they voted against the many polls that have been conducted including their own poll of Republican voters," Senn said. "They think they know better than their own electorate."

Molly Hennessy-Fiske and Rachel Roubein contributed to this report.

Debt ceiling crisis forces Biden to wrestle with limits of presidential power

BY TOLUSE OLORUNNIPA

When Congress declined to forgive student debt, President Biden announced he would do it on his own. When lawmakers balked at extending an eviction moratorium, his administration did so unilaterally. Facing congressional paralysis on immigration, Biden issued a string of executive orders on the issue.

Now, as liberals call on Biden to sidestep Congress and resolve the debt ceiling standoff via executive action, the long-standing tension in his presidency between traditionalism and presidential power has risen to a new level. His willingness to push the limits of presidential authority at strategic moments in the past is emboldening liberals to demand that he invoke the Constitution to disregard the debt ceiling.

"The president could say he's following his constitutional obligation to make the payments that Congress has instructed him to make," said Rep. Ro Khanna (D-Calif.), one of dozens of Democratic lawmakers who signed a letter urging Biden to resolve the crisis on his own. "Then let the Republicans take it to court."

Khanna and other liberal lawmakers, worried that a debt limit deal with Republicans will require severe spending cuts, have rallied around an untested interpretation of the Constitution's 14th Amendment, which includes the clause, "the validity of the public debt, authorized by law . . . shall not be questioned." Others point to the constitutional requirement that the president ensure that all laws be "faithfully executed."

Under these theories, the Treasury Department could keep borrowing money beyond the limit set by Congress, issuing debt to pay for spending that Congress has, after all, already authorized. While such a move has never been taken, White House lawyers have been investigating whether the idea has merit.

For now, Biden and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) appear to be moving closer to a deal that would allow the debt ceiling to be raised, but an agreement is far from certain. If it is not reached, the government could default as early as June 1 with potentially catastrophic consequences for the economy, leaving unilateral action by Biden as one of the few remaining options.

Biden has been publicly torn over the 14th Amendment, saying he believed it empowered him to circumvent the debt limit — but also questioning the feasibility of using it now, given the likelihood of a prolonged court fight.

"We have not come up with a unilateral action that could succeed in a matter of two weeks or three weeks," Biden said recently, adding that the only resolution to the impasse is old-fashioned dealmaking between Democrats and Republicans. "So it's up to lawmakers."

Last October, when some Democrats urged abolishing the debt limit altogether before Republicans took control of the House, Biden rejected the idea as reckless. "You mean, just say we don't have a debt limit?" Biden said. "No. That would be irresponsible."

These comments reflect an internal struggle Biden has faced over the past two years, as he has sought to balance his impulse to govern as a bipartisan statesman — one who respects long-standing ways of doing things — with his desire to carve out a consequential presidency that advances progressive causes with historic efficacy.

Those competing instincts have shaped Biden's approach to a range of issues, including abortion, immigration, climate, gun safety, student loans, policing and voting rights. In many of those cases, Biden initially expressed reluctance about acting unilaterally, given his pledge to restore norms after the chaotic Trump presidency, only to later embrace executive measures when bipartisan compromise proved elusive.

In doing so, he has won plaudits from Democratic loyalists who saw a narrow window for action and argued that Republicans have not hesitated to wield presidential power. But just as often, Biden's plans have been stymied by the courts or failed to pacify activists who believe he should be doing more.

The debate has taken on new resonance as Republican presidential candidates, including Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, seek to portray Biden as a weak executive and pledge to aggressively use their constitutional powers if elected.

When it comes to the debt limit, Biden's aides for now say it is unproductive for Democrats to muse about an executive off-ramp whose feasibility is uncertain. Biden himself has cited the risk of trying an unproven theory when the stakes for the economy are so high.

If Biden were to invoke the 14th Amendment to sidestep the debt ceiling and continue borrowing, White Houses aides warn that investors would question the validity of any bonds issued under this untested authority. That uncertainty could have much the same effect as an actual default, they say, sending the economy into a tailspin.

DEMETRIUS FREEMAN/THE WASHINGTON POST

President Biden, seen Monday with House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, is at odds with his traditionalist values as liberals tell him to sidestep Congress and use the 14th Amendment to raise the debt ceiling.

Biden's dilemma is hardly unique, as presidents increasingly face pressure from their supporters to push the limits of their authority, said William Howell, a professor at the University of Chicago's Harris School of Public Policy and the author of several books on presidential power.

"The history of the presidency when it comes to power is a history of aggrandizement," Howell said. "Presidents, because they are expected to do everything and have a solution to every conceivable problem, can be counted on to not only protect but to nurture and expand their powers."

For Biden, who served six terms in the Senate and campaigned for the presidency by pledging a renewed era of bipartisanship and traditional dealmaking in Congress, the march toward a more expansive executive branch has been halting.

He has cited his legislative accomplishments on everything from climate change to gun control as evidence that he can successfully advance his agenda through a sharply divided Congress. At the same time, he has pledged not to let "extremist MAGA Republicans" stop him from making progress on various fronts, repeatedly threatening vetoes and issuing executive orders.

Some White House aides are frustrated at liberals' increasingly vocal calls for unilateral presidential action on the debt limit, saying it makes it harder to finalize a bipartisan deal if lawmakers believe Biden can solve the problem on his own.

But Biden himself has lent some credence to these demands, saying weeks ago that he was ruminating on the 14th Amendment theory and stating more recently that "I think we have the authority." He added that even if it is impractical under the current circumstances, he would like to find a way to test the feasibility of invoking the 14th Amendment once the current standoff is resolved.

Biden may not have to wait that long. A federal judge in Boston ordered a hearing next week in a lawsuit brought by a union of federal workers who contend that the 14th Amendment authorizes Biden to bypass Congress and pay the nation's bills.

For their part, Republicans sharply criticize talk of a presidential workaround as a distraction at a time when, they say, the two parties need to be immersed in negotiations.

Rep. Byron Donalds (R-Fla.) called the notion of relying on the 14th Amendment to circumvent Congress "lunacy," since Article I of the Constitution gives Congress, not the president, the power to borrow money. "That would actually go around Congress's Article I powers under the Constitution," Donalds said. "And the last time I checked, the 14th Amendment does not supersede Article I."

But Felicia Wong, president and chief executive of the Roosevelt Institute, a liberal economic think tank, noted that Article II says the president "shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed." That includes the laws already passed by Congress incurring financial obligations, she said: "It is the president's constitutional responsibility to execute all of the laws."

Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.) downplayed fears that unilateral action by Biden would invite lengthy litigation, noting that the Supreme Court is traditionally wary of intervening in disputes between the other two branches of government.

"It makes me at least believe that the Supreme Court would stay out of this one," Whitehouse said, suggesting that the justices would not want to add sparking a global recession to their growing list of controversies.

Sen. John Fetterman (D-Pa.) put it more bluntly during a news conference last week. "If an unelected Supreme Court justice will try to blow up our economy, that's on them," he said.

Still, Biden has a mixed track record with the judicial branch, which former president Donald Trump populated with scores of conservative judges while in office. Federal courts have on occasion admonished Biden for attempting to sidestep Congress, and White House aides note that the Supreme Court has not been particularly friendly to the Biden administration's interpretation of executive authority.

Federal judges have struck down several Biden administration policies, including his eviction moratorium, coronavirus vaccine requirements for large employers, and several initiatives on immigration and climate.

A federal judge has also ruled unconstitutional Biden's plan to forgive hundreds of millions of dollars in student loan debt without authorization from Congress. The Supreme Court justices, who are set to rule on the initiative in coming months, expressed skepticism about it at a recent hearing.

The president faced perhaps the biggest debate over the reach of his executive powers when the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* last year. Some of the same lawmakers who have signed letters calling on Biden to invoke the 14th Amendment also wrote the White House last summer urging the president to defy the justices' ruling or find federal workarounds to state abortion bans.

Pro-abortion rights lawmakers and activists suggested that Biden should declare a public health emergency on abortion, build clinics on federal lands or outright reject the Supreme Court's authority on this issue.

While Biden has taken several executive actions aiming to protect abortion rights, he has stopped short of endorsing these more far-reaching proposals. White House officials express concern that Trump-appointed judges would block such measures, and perhaps go further to hamstring the presidency with expansive rulings outlining the limits of presidential power.

The same sentiment is at play as the White House seeks to lower expectations about what the president can do on his own to deal with the debt crisis.

"It is not going to fix the current problem that we have right now," White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said when asked about the 14th Amendment. "Congress needs to do its job."

Leigh Ann Caldwell contributed to this report.

Congress races to reach deal by June 5

DEBT FROM A1

suspended the debt limit by June 5," Yellen said in a letter.

President Biden and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) have reported progress in recent days on a government spending deal that would also lift the debt ceiling, but as of Friday afternoon no agreement had been made public and negotiators continued to face significant rifts.

The new default date should not be seen as a reprieve, but rather a more firm deadline that "ensures the urgency" of reaching a deal within days, said Rep. Patrick T. McHenry (R-N.C.), one of the key GOP negotiators.

"We're within the window of being able to perform this, and we have to come to some really tough terms in these closing hours," he told reporters Friday evening.

Yellen's warning come as new objections from the right emerged throughout Thursday and Friday to undermine an agreement that had not even been publicly released.

In response to reports about the details of the agreement, leading conservative lawmakers and budget experts raised strong objections, arguing that McCarthy had failed to extract sufficient concessions from the Biden administration in exchange for raising the debt ceiling. McCarthy pushed back in remarks to reporters Friday, saying the criticisms were being leveled by people unaware of the substance of the deal.

Negotiators are closing in on an agreement that would raise the debt ceiling by two years — a key priority of the Biden administration — while also essentially freezing government spending on domestic programs and slightly increasing funding for the military and veterans affairs, said three people familiar with the matter who spoke on the condition of anonymity to reflect private deliberations. Although the deal is expected to include key GOP priorities, such as partially clawing back new funding for the Internal Revenue Service, a growing chorus of conservatives has balked at how little the deal appears to cut government spending overall — especially because it would also give up their party's leverage on the debt ceiling until after the 2024 presidential election.

RICKY CARIOTI/THE WASHINGTON POST

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) in Washington on Thursday. McCarthy and President Biden have reported progress in recent days on a government spending deal that would also lift the debt ceiling, but as of Friday no agreement had been made public.

Rep. Ralph Norman (R-S.C.), a top member of the far-right House Freedom Caucus, described what he has learned so far of the emerging deal as "watered down." Norman urged McCarthy to hew closely to the legislation that conservatives helped craft and pass last month, which raised the debt ceiling only into next year and coupled the increase with larger spending cuts than the two parties are now discussing. "This is totally unacceptable, and it's not what we agreed to," Norman said.

Rep. Bob Good (R-Va.), another House conservative, complained about reports that the deal would raise the debt ceiling by more money than the bill approved by the House. Good said the emerging deal would do so "for a whole lot less in return that we need from a policy standpoint, from a fiscal standpoint." He added: "And if that were true, that would absolutely collapse the Republican majority for this debt ceiling increase."

Asked by reporters about the criticisms on Friday, McCarthy said: "I'm not concerned about anybody making any comments right now about what they think is in or not it. Whenever we come to an agreement, we'll make sure we will first brief our entire conference."

The extent and ferocity of the conservative revolt could prove crucial to the ongoing debt ceiling standoff, as well as McCarthy's future. But it was not exactly clear how many GOP lawmakers shared the objections voiced by Norman and Good. Since the beginning of the negotiations, McCarthy has been widely assumed to be able to lose the roughly three dozen members of the far-right House Freedom Caucus and still manage to pass the debt ceiling increase and retain his position as speaker. If he loses several dozen additional House Republican lawmakers, though, both the deal — and his grip on power — could be on shaky ground.

Exactly when the government will run out of money isn't certain. Two prominent credit rating agencies warned that they could downgrade the U.S. government's coveted AAA debt rating in the event of a default.

Even if negotiators do reach an agreement soon, they need time to put it into action. House rules require 72 hours for lawmakers to review legislation before a vote. The Senate would also have to act. All told, passage could take days.

"We're making progress and our goal is to make sure that we get a deal because default is unacceptable," Deputy Treasury Secretary Wally Adeyemo told CNN on Friday. "The president has said it and the speaker has said it."

With lawmakers in the House and Senate now back in their districts for Memorial Day weekend, the timeline became more precarious by the hour. McHenry told reporters Friday that talks were "up and down."

"There is forward progress. But each time there's forward progress, the issues that remain become more difficult and more challenging," McHenry said. "At some point, this thing can come together or go the other way."

The exact contours of a final deal remained unclear even as lawmakers on both sides of the aisle alluded to progress heading into the weekend.

For weeks, negotiators had clashed over GOP demands that would significantly cut federal spending on programs such as nutrition assistance, rental aid and scientific research, which White House aides fear could spark a revolt among Democrats.

But negotiators appeared to reach a breakthrough this week. Repurposed money from the IRS and other federal programs will allow Democrats to mitigate the cuts to the domestic programs, while the overall amount of spending will go down — a key McCarthy demand. Spending on veterans and the military will also rise in line with the increases sought by the president's budget, one person familiar with the matter said. At least two key issues — new work requirements and permitting reform to spur domestic energy production — remained unresolved.

The Biden administration accused House Republicans of trying to "tie the most vulnerable up in bureaucratic paperwork" disguised as work requirements while calling for tax cuts.

"House Republicans are threatening to trigger an unprecedented recession and cost the American people over 8 million jobs unless they can take food out of the mouths of hungry Americans," White House spokesman Andrew Bates said in a statement.

Congress sets a legal maximum on how much the Treasury Department can borrow to pay the government's bills, a limit known as the debt ceiling. Failure to raise the debt ceiling in time could put the federal government in default on its obligations, which economists warn could trigger a recession in the United States and a global financial crisis.

Yellen added that even coming close to the deadline — as seems likely to occur given how little time lawmakers have to act — can harm the American economy.

ASTRID RIECKEN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Department of Housing and Urban Development workers return to their offices in January 2019 after a government shutdown. Unlike with a shutdown, agencies have no blueprint for navigating a default.

How would a default affect federal workers? There are few answers.

FEDS FROM **A1**

rowing limit approach a June 1 deadline, when the Treasury Department warns that the government might no longer be able to pay its bills. Bipartisan negotiations were proceeding Friday, but the White House and House Republicans hadn't yet reached a final agreement to avert the crisis.

If a default happens, the government could halt many day-to-day operations, from staffing national parks at the start of tourist season to researching the newest coronavirus vaccines at the National Institutes of Health. Millions of federal contractors could go unpaid. Benefit checks for veterans and other disabled Americans may not go out.

And unlike a shutdown — an unpleasant but predictable stoppage that federal employees have become accustomed to weathering — no one knows how a default in Washington would actually play out.

The personnel agency and the Office of Management and Budget, which also oversees the federal workforce, did not respond to requests for comment. The White House has consistently signaled its confidence that a compromise will be reached with Republicans.

"We are committed to not having missed payments and raising the debt ceiling so that's not a situation we face," Treasury Secretary Janet L. Yellen said this week at a Wall Street Journal CEO Council event. "We're not involved in planning for what happens if there's a default."

Meanwhile, federal employees are bombarding their union headquarters with daily emails about whether they'll be forced to work without pay and if the value of their government-managed stock portfolios will plummet.

"I'm one of those that doesn't have a savings account to fall back on," said Josephine Jones, who retired from the Environmental Protection Agency and now works there part time doing clerical work for $16.10 an hour.

"To be honest with you, I've tried not to listen to this subject on the news," Jones said Thursday, taking a walk on her lunch break in the courtyard of the Ronald Reagan Federal Building and International Trade Center. She's in her 80s and lives in the District. "I'd rather wait and just find out if I'm going to be furloughed. This is really going to affect me."

Privately, federal managers say they are trying to game out how their agencies would proceed in the face of a default — even without specific direction from the White House.

"It's a voyage of exploration, but not in a good way," said one senior budget official, speaking on the condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to discuss planning for a default. "It's sailing off the end of the world to see if [a default] is really there."

The official said he has received "nothing" from the White House budget office on any of these topics. "I don't know where to go with this."

The government has never defaulted on its debt, despite coming within hours of catastrophe in 2011, the last standoff between the parties over raising the country's borrowing limit. While a failure to resolve the current impasse draws comparisons to a government shutdown, the scenarios are very different.

During a shutdown, shorthand for a lapse in appropriations, it's at least clear whether any government functions will be funded since Congress has generally agreed on a budget for some agencies. A default, though, would leave Treasury to decide which bills it could pay, creating little certainly about, for example, whether the Smithsonian would stay open to visitors, the IRS would continue to process tax returns or inspectors with the EPA would be able to monitor air pollution.

"Totally uncharted and troubling waters," said Max Stier, president and chief executive of the nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service. "Unlike a shutdown, there is no certainty about what will be funded and what won't, and no track record."

To buy time and conserve cash without new borrowing options, a burst of new tax revenue or quick opportunities to slow spending, Treasury has asked federal agencies if they have flexibility to put off some payments that are due before early June.

Some offices are retrieving plans they sent the OMB before the government entered a 35-day partial shutdown in December 2018, blueprints that lay out which employees would be directed to work and which would be furloughed. Agencies have received budgetary allocations for the current quarter of the fiscal year, allowing them to draw money to pay expenses as they arise, including employee salaries. But it's possible that money would need to be used for other obligations.

> *"It's a voyage of exploration, but not in a good way. It's sailing off the end of the world to see if [a default] is really there. . . . I don't know where to go with this."*
>
> **A senior budget official**

It's also possible that a short default could cause minimal disruption if it fell within the government's biweekly pay periods. However, since federal paychecks reflect compensation for time already worked and are sent about a week later, the government might not be able to pay for work done before money runs out.

Among the biggest questions coursing through federal offices is whether furloughed employees would be paid later, as they are in government shutdowns caused by funding lapses.

After every shutdown, those who had to come to work have been guaranteed back pay — a practice lawmakers enshrined in law. But that law does not cover a debt default, which would leave it up to Congress to pass new legislation to ensure that federal employees are paid.

Relatively speaking, the payroll for the civilian workforce is not the biggest-ticket expense the Biden administration would have trouble paying in a default. Federal salaries and benefits, minus the military and the U.S. Postal Service, come to about $28 billion a month and $50 billion for contractors, according to the federal budget. That's dwarfed by Social Security checks and Medicare payments, for example.

Still, Jack Lew, who was director of the White House budget office during the 2011 standoff, said federal employees are right to be worried about their paychecks.

"This is the kind of thing where you don't have a track record because it's always been avoided," said Lew, who later served as President Barack Obama's treasury secretary. "The thing I think people have to realize is, it's not a neat and orderly, 'You do this, and you don't do that.' The process by which checks are paid is not easy to micromanage."

As the Obama administration approached default in 2011, there were more questions than plans, Lew said — about what operations could cease; what bills to pay and not pay, under what laws; and which functions of government to give priority. The answer "was clear as mud."

Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.), whose constituents include tens of thousands of federal employees and contractors, said in an email to The Washington Post that "federal employees face a double jeopardy" with a debt default. "On top of the negative impacts all Americans will face from rising interest rates and a likely recession, they also are at risk of going without pay."

Matthew Biggs, president of the International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers, which has 90,000 members at the Defense Department and other agencies and aerospace contractors, said he is hearing more concerns from his members as June 1 looms, "and they're more worried about a default than they were about a government shutdown."

"Even if they reach a deal, it doesn't mean their TSP won't be depleted," Biggs said, referring to the hit financial markets took that affected the government's savings and investment plan for employees, known as the Thrift Savings Plan, even after a default was averted 12 years ago.

Keith Williams, an EPA contractor in IT with two young children who works in the Reagan building, said he's saved just a month's rent for a crisis. "If the EPA is not working, I don't work," he said Thursday.

The 2011 compromise to avoid a default resulted in a decade of spending cuts across the government, a scenario under consideration now as well, albeit for a shorter duration. That's also making employees at some struggling agencies nervous. The Social Security Administration, for instance, is already reeling from eroding customer service coming out of the coronavirus pandemic, in part because thousands of employees quit or retired and not all of them have been replaced in the tight labor market.

"The agency is already in a public service crisis," said Rich Couture, chief contract negotiator for the American Federation of Government Employees at Social Security, "and now we're looking at some type of spending caps."

At the Forest Service, wildland firefighters who recently received a temporary pay boost of $700 per paycheck through the end of the fiscal year on Sept. 30 are worried that any deal to avert a debt default could impede their efforts to make the raise permanent. The labor market is already causing applications for seasonal firefighting jobs to plunge across the government this year, said Warner Vanderheuel, a firefighter based in northern Michigan who is general vice president of the National Federation of Federal Employees' Forest Service Council.

"It was really weighing on us how precarious the pay supplement is before this debt crisis," he said.

Tony Romm contributed to this report.

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Cites race to find new ways to help homeless seniors

PHOTOS BY CAITLIN O'HARA FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

ABOVE: Tents fill the sidewalks in "The Zone" in Phoenix on May 2. About 900 people were living in a few square blocks in The Zone before city officials began clearing some streets this month. BELOW: Physician Mark Bueno works at a Circle the City mobile clinic in Phoenix. "Quite a lot of our patients have mobility issues. I have patients in their 80s out here," he said.

HOMELESS FROM **A1**

safety net.

Nearly a quarter of a million people 55 or older are estimated by the government to have been homeless in the United States during at least part of 2019, the most recent reliable federal count available. They represent a particularly vulnerable segment of the 70 million Americans born after World War II known as the baby boom generation, the youngest of whom turn 59 this year.

Advocates for homeless people in many big cities say they have seen a spike in the number of elderly homeless individuals, who have unique health and housing needs. Some communities, including Phoenix and Orange County in California, are racing to come up with novel solutions, including establishing senior shelters and hiring specially trained staff.

"It's just a catastrophe. This is the fastest-growing group of people who are homeless," said Margot Kushel, a professor of medicine and a vulnerable populations researcher at the University of California at San Francisco.

The largest shelter provider in Arizona, Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS), is rushing to open an over-55 shelter in a former Phoenix hotel this summer with private rooms and medical and social services tailored for older people. The facility will open with 40 beds and eventually reach a capacity of 170, but that will barely begin to address the problem of keeping older people safe and healthy. CASS says it served 1,717 older adults in 2022, an increase in one year of 43 percent.

In Orange County, a Medicaid plan is creating a 119-bed, first-of-its-kind unit that essentially will serve as an assisted-living facility exclusively for homeless people, said Kelly Bruno-Nelson, executive director for the plan, CalOptima Health.

"The current shelter system cannot accommodate the physical needs of this population," she said.

In San Francisco, Portland, Ore., and Anchorage, seniors also are staying for months in respite centers that were meant to provide a short-term stay for homeless people to recuperate. In Boise, shelter operators are hiring staff with backgrounds in long-term care to help homeless clients manage their daily needs while living for long stretches in hotels.

The homeless population is famously difficult to count. People 55 and older represented 16.5 percent of America's homeless population of 1.45 million in 2019, according to the most recent reliable data. Dennis Culhane, a professor and social science researcher at the University of Pennsylvania, said the population of homeless seniors 65 and older will double or even triple 2017 levels in some places before peaking around 2030.

"It's in crisis proportions. It's in your face," Culhane said. "Average citizens can see people in wheelchairs, people in walkers, people with incontinence and colostomy bags making their living out of a tent."

A devastating combination of factors is to blame for the rising problem. People in the second half of the baby boom, who came of age during recessions in the 1970s and 1980s, face distinct economic disadvantages, Culhane said. Housing costs are soaring in many cities. The nation's system of nursing homes and assisted-living facilities is not equipped to handle the needs of homeless people, who suffer from high rates of substance abuse and mental illness.

Before Phoenix officials began clearing some streets of people this month, there were about 900 people living in a few square blocks known as "The Zone" and another 900 or so living in emergency shelters on the gated Human Services Campus in the same neighborhood, shelter operators said.

In Maricopa County, which encompasses the Phoenix metro area, an annual count in January documented more than 2,000 homeless people 55 and above, and nearly a third of those were 65 or older.

Living on the street ravages the human body, street doctors and advocates say. Homeless people contract chronic diseases and other geriatric problems much earlier than average. But long waits for housing and a lack of specialized care expose them to a continued onslaught on their health.

After providing treatment for acute illnesses, hospitals often discharge homeless patients, who wind up back in shelters or even back in their sidewalk tents and makeshift lean-tos, in what health practitioners in Phoenix ruefully call "treat-and-street."

The threat of relapses and rehospitalizations is large. Aid workers said seniors' medicine is often stolen by younger homeless people on the streets. It is not unusual to assist clients with dementia.

Staff at CASS pass out adult diapers. Some unhoused seniors remain at the CASS shelter for a year or more while they await placement in subsidized housing, assisted living or a nursing home. But CASS is not licensed to provide nursing-home-level care, and staff are not trained as nursing assistants. So patients cannot remain if they have advanced geriatric care needs and require help with activities of daily living such as dressing, eating and going to the bathroom.

"They need a higher level of care than the current shelter system can provide," said Lisa Glow, chief executive of CASS. "There have been times here where we had to turn people away, where it's really heartbreaking. They come in a wheelchair, late at night, and they can't take care of themselves."

In those instances, staff work to get an alternative space as quickly as possible, such as a hotel, she said.

In Phoenix, summer heat is on the way, which poses a particularly grave threat of dehydration, heat stroke, and burns from bare feet, arms and legs coming into contact with blisteringly hot concrete and asphalt.

"Quite a lot of our patients have mobility issues," said Mark Bueno, a primary care doctor who treats patients living on the streets from a mobile clinic run by Circle the City, a local homeless aid group. "I have patients in their 80s out here."

In years of researching homelessness, Kushel has catalogued the countless paths to sudden homelessness for older adults. It often involves the death of a spouse or parent, which means income is lost and rent or a mortgage can no longer be paid, she said.

Other long-term chronically homeless people are simply aging on the street.

Medicaid, the health insurance program for the poor, will only pay for a long-term nursing home or assisted-living bed if someone is unable to care for themselves. Many elderly homeless people are not debilitated enough to meet that criteria.

"That's where the gap in the system is," said Regan Smith, long-term care ombudsman program director in Maricopa County.

A pinball effect takes hold, said health-care providers, shelter operators and advocates. Homeless people bounce from homeless shelter to hospital, then to a nursing home for a short-term recuperation stay. Once that short-term stay ends, nursing homes must decide whether the person is infirm enough to qualify for long-term care. If the answer is no, they must leave the nursing home, starting the cycle over again.

In New Mexico, 69-year-old Steven Block, who has memory problems, ended up homeless in the lobby of a Coyote South hotel in Santa Fe this year after being evicted from a nursing home in Taos, Block's family members said.

Block, a former reporter for a community newspaper in southern Colorado, abused alcohol and suffered a fall near his home in Raton, N.M., said Terrie Gulden, his brother-in-law. He suffered hip and shoulder fractures and was treated in an Albuquerque hospital, where doctors discovered he had dementia, Gulden said. He was transferred to the Taos facility in June 2022 but was discharged with no notification to the family on the last day of January, Gulden said. Block, who had some socks and a change of underwear in a garbage bag, was unable to tell his family how he ended up in Santa Fe.

"I had no idea that was happening until I got a call from a Santa Fe hotel that he was in their lobby. He had no money, no papers, no discharge papers. He was just out on the street," Gulden said. "I can't believe that this stuff happens across the country. I know it does, but when it happens to you, it just floors you. It's unbelievable."

Gulden said that after Block spent two weeks in a homeless shelter in Santa Fe, the local fire department gave him a ride to the Albuquerque airport so he could meet up with Gulden, who had flown in. Gulden brought Block back to Minnesota to be near family.

He was lucky to have relatives who could whisk him to a safer environment. Block now resides in a subsidized apartment. He has family and paid help assisting him with meals and housecleaning.

For people in Block's circumstances without family support, some shelters utilize special units called "respite" centers.

Respite centers now number about 150 around the country, up from 80 in 2016, according to the National Health Care for the Homeless Council. They often are funded at least in part by local hospitals that want to avoid discharging homeless people back onto the streets.

They are designed to help homeless people recuperate for a few weeks after a health crisis. But with nowhere else to go, elderly people tend to stay far longer.

In Anchorage during the pandemic, shelter operators took over a hockey arena to provide socially distanced quarters for homeless people. But they quickly found that elderly people with wheelchairs and walkers could not get up the stairs from the arena floor to the mezzanine, where food was served. It highlighted the need for a vastly expanded respite unit for homeless elderly and disabled people.

Catholic Social Services has opened an expanded version of a respite center, what it calls a "complex care" facility in a former hotel, where more than 65 percent of current residents are 55 and older.

Still, residents are free to come and go, which poses problems when caring for people with dementia. One man in his 70s walked out in January and was found at the airport several days later, facility staff said. He told police he was waiting for a flight. He didn't have a ticket.

"He had a coat on. He had a beanie on. He was well-prepared for the weather conditions. But I have no idea how he got out to the airport," said Jessie Talivaa, program coordinator for complex care at Catholic Social Services. He did not recognize Talivaa when Talivaa showed up to retrieve him. "I said, 'How about we go get a cup of coffee?,' and I got him a cup of coffee and brought him straight home."

Now the man is on a waiting list for an assisted-living facility in Anchorage. Talivaa said he is hopeful the man will get into the new place within a few months.

Yet another problem arises, however, when people approach death while in respite care, said Kushel, the San Francisco medical school professor and advocate.

"Medical respite was not intended to be palliative care, hospice care, end-of-life care," she said, "yet some respite programs are starting to provide that service because there is nowhere else for these folks to go."

Bueno, the Phoenix street physician, said ambulances pick up a dead person from a tent in The Zone about once a week. Reasons vary, but the combination of aging bodies, brutal living conditions and drugs is often deadly.

Nette Reed, an employee of the Human Services Campus, walks the streets early in the morning performing wellness checks on seniors.

Cheryl Sanders, 59, huddled in a pup tent, said she had returned to her spot on the street after being discharged from the hospital two weeks before, following what she said was a second heart attack. It was already hot out at about 8 a.m., and she was surrounded by heavy blankets. She appeared thin. She gratefully accepted water bottles.

She told Reed that she was ready to give up her tent and come inside a shelter, even though she said she has not gotten along with people in the shelter in the past.

"I'm tired," Sanders said.

"You know I've been itching to get you off these streets," Reed said.

Herron, the former autoworker, said in two interviews on consecutive days that said she has moved back and forth between her native Mississippi and Phoenix several times in recent years, traveling by Greyhound bus to be near family. Herron said she has endured sporadic homelessness for years.

She lived in an assisted-living facility for a time in 2022, she said, but even at the subsidized rate it consumed $600 of her $800-per-month Social Security payment. She moved in with a nephew, but that didn't last and she wound up at one of several shelters at the Human Services Campus. Early this month she was waiting to move into a subsidized apartment that would cost her one-third of her monthly Social Security income.

It would probably leave enough for cable TV payments, she said.

For now, for diversion, she said she likes to ride the light rail cars that glide through downtown Phoenix. She enjoys hearing kids laughing on the train. She wears motivational wristbands; one says "Never Give Up," the other says "One Day at a Time."

Tears well near the surface. They overflow when talk turns to her adult children.

"They see me at Christmas," Herron said, her voice quavering. "They call me Mama."

Nette Reed, an employee of the Human Services Campus in Phoenix, checks in on Desi Hurd, 62, in The Zone. An annual count in the Phoenix area in January documented more than 2,000 homeless people 55 and above. Nearly a third of those were 65 or older.

D.C.-based marijuana delivery service targeted by federal prosecutors in Va.

DELIVERY FROM **A1**

ing market for recreational marijuana in the nation's capital.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and U.S. prosecutors saw him as the leader of a runaway criminal enterprise.

In July 2022, Pennington, two younger brothers he had hired and five Joint Delivery managers were indicted — the first and, so far, only D.C. marijuana dispensary to face federal prosecution since Initiative 71 passed. In a related case, Pennington's accountant was charged with money laundering.

The case highlights how the federal prohibition on marijuana distribution creates legal risks for those in D.C. and states that have legalized its use — even in an administration that is more pot-friendly than its predecessor. President Biden has pardoned thousands of low-level marijuana offenders and announced policy moves to end what he called the "failed approach" on federal marijuana enforcement. The District's law, which allows adults to exchange up to one ounce of marijuana as long as "no money, goods, or services" are traded, has spawned a network of shops and delivery services that sell goods such as T-shirts and give customers a marijuana "gift" with their purchase.

"This is a strange kind of case, because the substance that's involved is legal in many, many states now. It's not in the federal system," U.S. District Judge Leonie M. Brinkema said at a hearing May 2. "This disparity has got to get worked out soon because it creates a crazy situation in the law enforcement area."

The DEA twice raided Joint Delivery's offices in D.C. last year, finding cash, marijuana and cannabis products, according to the indictment. All nine defendants pleaded guilty to money laundering or conspiring to distribute a dangerous substance and were ordered to forfeit the money they earned.

But they never set foot in a D.C. courthouse, and none went to prison.

The top federal prosecutor in the District, U.S. Attorney Matthew M. Graves, declined to prosecute Joint Delivery and generally does not seek charges against any of the dozens of marijuana "gifting" shops and delivery services in the city, despite occasional police raids, according to U.S. officials and defense attorneys involved in the Joint Delivery case.

Instead, all the charges against Pennington and his employees were filed by the U.S. attorney's office for the Eastern District of Virginia (EDVA), led by Jessica D. Aber. Prosecutors said they had jurisdiction mainly because much of the money laundering occurred in Northern Virginia. But legal experts and the judge who handled most of the case said they were puzzled by the move, because the drug distribution that prosecutors described happened in D.C.

"I don't think this case truly belonged here," Brinkema said at a hearing in Alexandria federal court on Jan. 6, after chiding a prosecutor in Aber's office for seeking a "completely inappropriate" sentence of four years and nine months in prison for one of Pennington's shift managers, Robert Spear, who was 27 years old at the time.

The judge sentenced all of those indicted to terms of supervised release of two or three years. "It was always amazing to me that the District of Columbia, where this business essentially was, was not interested in the prosecution of this case," Brinkema said at one of the final sentencings.

A warning to other D.C. dispensaries

Most states and D.C. have medical marijuana programs and nearly half have legalized it for adult recreational use. Virginia has legalized possession but not nonmedical sales. Maryland will allow recreational use starting July 1.

Aber said in a statement that her office "has no interest in prosecuting individuals who are legitimately following the marijuana regulation laws of the state where they live or operate," but that "when appropriate, we may prosecute illicit, large-scale, interstate marijuana distributors, like JointVentures, who violate federal law." (JointVentures was Joint Delivery's legal name.) She noted that Pennington pleaded guilty to laundering roughly $3.5 million through his enterprise.

"In short, EDVA will not prosecute those who abide by state marijuana laws but will prosecute individuals on occasion whose massive enterprises violate federal and state law," Aber said.

Unlike in other jurisdictions that have legalized recreational marijuana for adults, D.C. has not

JAHI CHIKWENDIU/THE WASHINGTON POST

Connor Pennington was the owner and chief executive of Joint Delivery, the only marijuana dispensary in D.C. to be prosecuted in federal court. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to time served, with the judge heavily criticizing the government's case.

been able to implement a regulatory framework for cannabis sales because Congress has blocked it from doing so in annual spending riders attached to appropriations bills since 2015. The gifting businesses operate without sales licenses. Pennington said he at first used the gifting model for Joint Delivery but then decided to drop the facade in 2020 "to stay relevant."

Defense attorneys in the case said Aber's statement suggested that dozens of marijuana dispensaries in the District could now face prosecution in Virginia. The District has seven licensed medical marijuana dispensaries, which are the only businesses that can make sales while fully complying with federal law. Adults over 21 years old may self-certify their applications for a medical marijuana card.

Pennington admitted he sourced his marijuana from California and Colorado, arranging shipments through the mail or on commercial flights. The operation's accountant, John Robert Fischel, laundered sales revenue mostly through banks in Northern Virginia, directing employees to make deposits under $10,000 to avoid unwanted scrutiny, a practice known as structuring. One of Pennington's shift managers, Nicole Mayorga, admitted she accepted a U.S. Postal Service delivery of a marijuana parcel at her Virginia home in 2021; it was a sting arranged by law enforcement. Prosecutors did not allege that Pennington's delivery workers ventured outside the District to deliver marijuana as part of their jobs.

> *"I don't think this case truly belonged here."*
> **U.S. District Judge Leonie M. Brinkema,**
> who criticized prosecutors for seeking a four-year, nine-month prison term for a Joint Delivery shift manager

The DEA did not respond to questions. A spokeswoman for Graves said prosecutors in D.C., Maryland or Virginia sometimes take cases that involve the other two jurisdictions and did not respond to further questions.

Federal prosecutors in Virginia at first sought prison sentences of more than four years for two of Pennington's shift managers. They requested six months to one year for four other managers. At one of the final sentencing hearings, Assistant U.S. Attorneys Katherine E. Rumbaugh and David A. Peters sought 18 months in prison for Pennington, arguing in a court filing that he "took advantage of the murkiness of D.C.'s cannabis laws to corrupt the integrity of the banking system, all to enrich himself."

Brinkema was unmoved, sentencing all of them to time served after they spent one or two days in jail. Pennington was required to forfeit $227,274, "representing the sum involved in the defendant's offense of conviction," according to a court order.

"Her reactions suggest federal law really needs to catch up," said Alex Kreit, assistant professor and director of the Center on Addiction Law and Policy at Northern Kentucky University's Salmon P. Chase College of Law.

Robert Mikos, a professor at Vanderbilt Law School, said it was "undisputed that the defendants were violating both state and federal law; as far as I'm aware, that really makes them fair game for federal prosecution." But he added that prosecutors have discretion to choose which cases to pursue and might face criticism for the ones they prioritize.

"There are thousands of federal criminal statutes out there, and only a small number of U.S. attorneys spread throughout the country," Mikos said. "They can't prosecute every violation of federal law."

An attempt at a 'legitimate business'

Pennington's operation resembled a traditional business, according to court records and the people involved in the case.

Fischel, who was 57 years old at his sentencing in March, said a 2011 bankruptcy and expenses including pets' medical costs had put his family in a financial bind when a neighbor of his who worked for Pennington made introductions. Fischel became Joint Delivery's chief financial officer in 2018.

Fischel, who lost his accounting license after pleading guilty to money laundering last year, ran the payroll for Joint Delivery and had employees sign up for health benefits. He prepared tax returns and sales-and-use tax payments for D.C. and arranged a 401(k) retirement plan for the company.

Shift manager Joseph Mayorga Burtt "attended the office Christmas party, participated in the office Fantasy Football league, filled out a time sheet, received a W-2 at the end of the year, and paid his taxes," his attorney, Jay P. Mykytiuk, wrote in a court filing. Pennington said he implemented containment measures during the coronavirus pandemic in the two apartments across the hall from each other on 12th Street NW, where the company was based, and in a warehouse in Hyattsville, Md.

Prosecutors recommended no prison time for Fischel, despite federal sentencing guidelines that called for 135 months to 168 months, the same as for Pennington. A statement of facts accompanying Fischel's guilty plea says the "money laundering scheme, adopted by Connor Pennington and executed by the JointVentures conspirators, was Mr. Fischel's brainchild." U.S. District Judge Rossie D. Alston Jr. sentenced Fischel to a probationary term of three years. Alston told him that he was getting "absolute grace" and that prosecutors "cut you a big break." Fischel did not spend time in jail.

"He had a crazy notion that he could somehow make this business legitimate," an attorney for Fischel, Danny C. Onorato, told the judge.

"We were overextended," Fischel said at his sentencing. "I made a poor choice — a poor decision — to help support the family."

A marijuana case like no other

Since recreational marijuana was legalized in Colorado in 2014, federal prosecutors in that state have obtained eight indictments for marijuana distribution conspiracies that did not involve firearms — all but one of those cases involved large-scale cultivation, and the remaining case involved the one-time distribution of 114.9 kilograms of marijuana, according to Spear's defense attorney in the Virginia case, Joseph T. Flood. The Joint Delivery defendants admitted they sold 400 to 700 kilograms of marijuana from 2018 to 2022.

But there is no case on record in Colorado, Maryland, Washington state or the District of Columbia against dispensary workers such as Spear, Flood wrote.

"I did an exhaustive search, as I indicated, of states that have had laws on the books for a long time," Flood told the judge at Spear's sentencing on Jan. 6. "I can't find another prosecution that looks remotely like this. … It's unimaginable that it would happen again."

Spear, who is now a coastal engineering major at a North Carolina college, told the judge he started off as a Joint Delivery customer who found the business "through a Google search." Then he became a delivery biker and eventually was promoted to shift manager before Pennington fired him after Spear voiced "outrage … that many of his practices seemed illegal."

The D.C. Council, Flood noted, has approved legislation clearing a pathway for marijuana "gifting" shops to be fully licensed. Flood said he found "no prosecutions of people selling cannabis through unlicensed dispensaries" in Virginia since possession was legalized in the state in 2021.

As of this year, 37 states and D.C. have medical marijuana programs and 22 states have legalized the drug for recreational use, along with D.C. and Guam.

But under the federal Controlled Substances Act, marijuana since 1970 has been in the top category for addictive and dangerous substances, Schedule I. Biden in October asked federal agencies to consider downgrading marijuana to a less serious category.

A Justice Department policy from 2013, known as the Cole memorandum, outlined eight priorities for prosecuting marijuana offenses under federal law in states that had moved toward legalization, such as preventing sales to minors or abetting organized or violent crime. "None of those [eight] considerations are present in this matter," Fischel's attorneys wrote in a court filing.

Although the policy was rescinded during the Trump administration, Attorney General Merrick Garland said in March congressional testimony that the Justice Department was drafting new guidelines that would be "very close to what was done in the Cole memoranda." Defense attorneys involved in the Joint Delivery case said that probably would have prevented prosecutors from targeting their clients.

Pennington said he was relieved to not have to spend time in any of the white-collar prison facilities he had been researching while he awaited his sentencing on May 2. But he said he feels deflated by the conviction on his record and the fact that he is being cut out of the market he spent so much time researching and learning. Pennington said he developed his own brand of cannabis called "Rosslyn," and never failed to pay taxes to D.C., even during the pandemic doldrums. He said he took care of his brothers and employees and their needs.

"We may be the last group of convicted cannabis-related individuals, to be honest," said Pennington, who has since returned to the restaurant business.

But he said he was heartened by Brinkema's comments at his sentencing hearing.

"How do you have private equity companies that are profiting on stock exchanges for marijuana, while you have individuals who are suffering 20 years in prison?" Pennington said. "That's wrong, and as a society, we need to make a stand and say this has got to be resolved. And so it's a relief to hear that federal judges are thinking that way. It's a relief to hear that she's thinking that way."

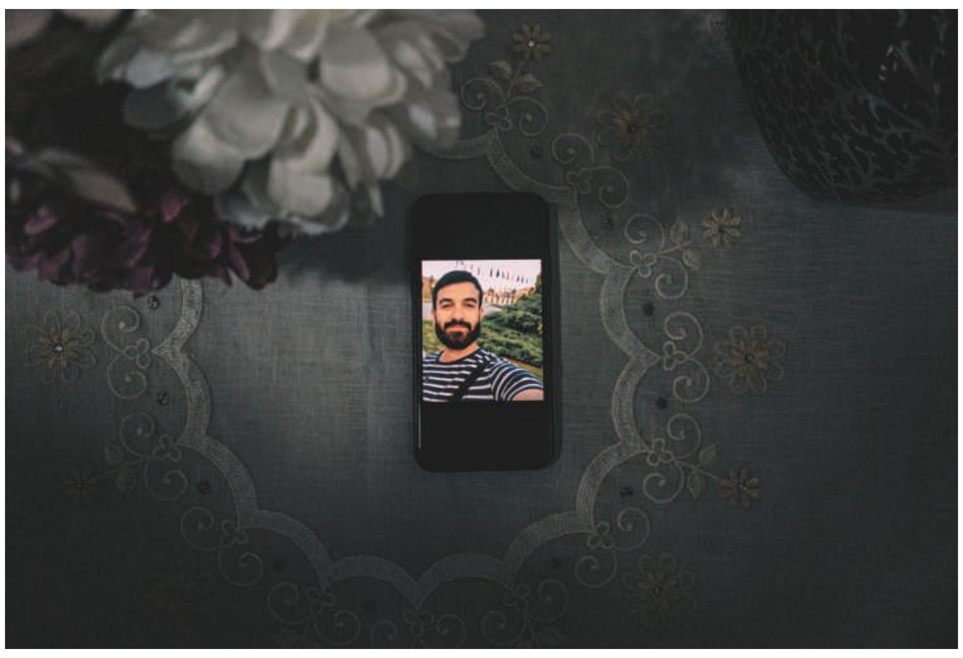
THE WORLD

In Turkey, slaying of a Syrian immigrant stokes fear

As political rhetoric escalates, refugees worry their fate is on the ballot

PHOTOS BY ALICE MARTINS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A man identified as Islam, above, recently lost his friend Saleh Sabika, below, who was killed by a co-worker at a factory in Turkey. Islam and Sabika are Syrian refugees, who have become easy targets for Turkish political leaders who contend that immigrants are changing the nation's character and should be returned to their home country by force.



BY LOUISA LOVELUCK AND ASMAA AL-OMAR

ISTANBUL, TURKEY — The campaign posters promising to deport Syrian refugees appeared on the morning that Saleh Sabika was killed. They were all across the city by the time he began his final shift in a country that didn't want him anymore.

Grainy CCTV footage from the Istanbul sock factory around 10 a.m. shows a fistfight between Sabika, a 28-year-old Syrian, and a Turkish colleague. Not long after, eyewitnesses said, the colleague grabbed a knife from a nearby restaurant and returned to stab Sabika in the chest.

He was dead by the time he reached the hospital.

"He wasn't just killed by a weapon," said his childhood friend Islam, who spoke on the condition that he be identified by his nickname, fearing for his own safety.

"He was killed by the words of all those politicians who planted the ideology against us in people's heads," he continued. "It won't be the last death like this."

As Turkey prepares for a landmark runoff in its presidential election, the fate of people like Sabika and Islam are on the ballot. After years of economic crisis here, Syrian refugees and asylum seekers have become easy targets for leaders across the political spectrum, who contend that immigrants are changing the nation's character and should be returned to their home country by force.

Even before election season, a rising tide of forced deportations, police harassment and violent hate crimes had left many Syrians feeling under siege.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who once welcomed Syrian war refugees to Turkey, has struggled to respond to public anger, vowing on the campaign trail to send a million of them home. Ahead of Sunday's runoff, opposition leader Kemal Kilicdaroglu has gone a step further, making the removal of all Syrian refugees a core campaign promise. Recently, posters of the 74-year-old former accountant were plastered across Istanbul with a new and ominous message — "Syrians will leave."

When news of Sabika's death reached Islam's family WhatsApp group later that day, the 21-year-old student assumed it was a prank, and resolved to yell at him later. Sabika was always a bit of a goofball, he said, although his jokes had slowed recently. Just walking through the streets made him anxious, he told Islam.

Taha el-Gazi, a legal activist from eastern Syria, said the possible hate crime was his fourth such case this month. Days earlier, he had been reviewing the case of a 9-year-old Syrian girl kidnapped and killed in the border town of Kilis. The victims, he said, are usually young men or children. Authorities in Istanbul said that they had detained a Turkish man in connection with Sabika's death. Local media reports suggested that the fight had started over who should clean a bathroom.

Syria's civil war began in 2011. By the following year, more than 150,000 people had poured into Turkey seeking safety. "You have suffered a lot," Erdogan told the crowd at a displacement camp in 2012. Turkey would be their "second home," he said.

More than 5.5 million Syrians — a quarter of the prewar population — ultimately fled the country, and nearly 4 million settled across the border in Turkey. Some 3.6 million are still living there, according to the United Nations; Turkish officials say more than 500,000 have voluntarily returned to Syria, though many are still internally displaced.

Since Turkey allowed refugees to work, they integrated quickly. By 2014, formalized protection measures offered them health care and education. A temporary identification card, called a kimlik, was meant to protect Syrians against forced return. Turkey's interior minister said last year that more than 700,000 Syrian children had been born in Turkey since the start of the war.

But as the years passed and Turkey struggled with crises of its own, the welcome wore thin. Mainstream media channels, particularly those backed by the opposition, cast the refugees as invaders, and argued, without evidence, that Syrians were taking jobs away from Turks.

Islam and Sabika grew up in Raqqa, a province captured in 2014 by militants from the Islamic State. They arrived in Turkey in 2018, staying together at times; by the start of this year, both had seen their closest relatives move abroad.

"Emotionally, I was the closest person he had left," Islam said.

Like many Syrians, Islam learned Turkish but at times he wished that he hadn't — now it was impossible to ignore the racist comments that spread across his social media. "It was almost a curse," he thought.

For the two friends, even the kimlik came to feel like a trap. It required them to stay in the province where they were registered, even though the jobs there had long since dried up. Sabika was one of many who traveled to Istanbul anyway to find work and live in the shadows.

Hundreds of Syrians are detained for breaking kimlik regulations each year, according to human rights groups. Refugees are arrested during raids on their workplaces or homes before being taken to one of the more than 25 "removal centers," partially funded by the European Union to keep refugees from reaching its shores.

The most infamous is in Istanbul's Tuzla district. A mutual friend of Sabika and Islam's spent a week there, recounting to them conditions so tough that one of the refugees cried at night to be deported. "If you're going to take us back, then take us," he remembers the man pleading. "But don't leave us here."

Many deportees have told rights groups that Turkish officers have also used violence or the threat of violence to force people into signing "voluntary" return forms.

For many Syrians, going home is unthinkable. Rights groups have documented arrests, harassment and forced conscription among returning refugees. Some have disappeared without a trace.

By the spring of this year, Sabika had found a measure of stability. He took jobs at two Istanbul sock factories — one would provide him with the insurance benefits needed to support a kimlik application in the city, while the other would allow him to save money for a cellphone.

Sabika had been kicked out of several apartments because he was Syrian, Islam said. Sabika's latest shared room was cramped and his mattress was thin, but he was doing his best. He was proud to wear Zara perfume, and on the morning of his final shift he had been cheered by the arrival of a relative.

On Sabika's death certificate, the time of death is listed as 12:30 p.m. The cause is simply: "Injury at work."

In a coastal town some 300 miles away, the news had reached Islam's social media, and suddenly it was all too real. He didn't even pause to grab a change of clothes. He was out of the house in minutes, on the first bus that would take him to his friend.

The journey took 12 hours. Islam tried not to think about what might happen if a policeman boarded to check his papers. He couldn't sleep. In Istanbul, he narrowly avoided a pair of police officers at the metro station.

He was first at the morgue when the gray day dawned. By 10 a.m., a small group of grim-faced relatives and acquaintances had joined him.

With northern Syria divided by warring factions, the vehicle carrying his body would have to cross dozens of checkpoints before reaching his hometown. A relative from the same tribe had been the one to break the news to Sabika's parents. For now, he said, they couldn't even grieve.

"Their worry right now is how to get the body back to them," he said.

Islam was still wearing the same clothes that he had left home in the day before, and the risks ahead were on his mind. Was it worth it? The answer brought him to tears. "I think Saleh would be happy that I came," he said.

After years of quiet struggle, his friend's killing had made real the sort of fears he had always tried not to dwell on. "As a refugee you're meant to go from an unsafe place to a safe place," he said. "That just isn't the case in Turkey."

Sabika's body was finally discharged around 5 p.m., in a white shroud. Before it was placed in the ambulance for its final journey, Islam wrapped his arm around his friend and cried. He couldn't accompany him all the way home, even if he wanted to. His kimlik would be invalidated at the Syrian border.

Alice Martins contributed reporting.

DIGEST

KOSOVO

Serbia orders army to border after clashes

Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic placed the country's army on full alert and ordered army units to move closer to the border with Kosovo on Friday, after protesters and police clashed in a majority-Serb town in the neighboring country.

Kosovo's police fired tear gas and clashed with demonstrators in front of a municipal building in the majority-Serb town of Zvecan earlier Friday, amid protests after widely boycotted local elections.

Some 50,000 Serbs living in four north Kosovo municipalities, including Zvecan, shunned the April 23 vote in protest that their demands for more autonomy had not been met — a new setback for a March peace deal.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken condemned the government of Kosovo on Friday and called on Prime Minister Albin Kurti to reverse course.

— Reuters

Imran Khan calls for talks in standoff with military: Former Pakistani prime minister Imran Khan appealed for immediate talks Friday with state officials, as pressure increased on him amid a crackdown on his top aides and supporters that has seen thousands arrested as well as many leaving his party. Khan has been embroiled in a tussle with the military since he was removed from power last year in a parliamentary vote that he says was orchestrated by the country's top generals. The military denies this. The standoff intensified when Khan's supporters were involved in violent protests this month after his brief arrest May 9.

Belgium, Iran conduct prisoner swap: Belgium and Iran exchanged prisoners Friday in a controversial move that saw an Iranian diplomat convicted of attempting to bomb exiles in France returning to Tehran bedecked in flowers, while a visibly gaunt aid worker headed back to Brussels. Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo said in a statement that the aid worker, Olivier Vandecasteele, had been freed and said that for him, "the choice was always clear: Olivier's life was always the most important." He said Vandecasteele had been unjustly held in Iran for 455 days and added that "in Belgium, we abandon no one. Not least someone who is innocent," whatever the legal and diplomatic consequences.

Man joins VIP convoy, hugs German chancellor: German police have been left red-faced after a member of the public was able to slip into a VIP convoy for Chancellor Olaf Scholz and then give him a hearty hug as he prepared to board a plane at Frankfurt Airport. Tabloid newspaper Bild reported Friday that Scholz's bodyguards only realized their mistake later, and chased the man down. In a statement, federal police said the man was detained. Nobody was hurt but an investigation into the security breach has been launched, police said. Scholz's office confirmed the incident, which happened late Wednesday.

— From news services

India's northeast hit by ethnic unrest tied to crisis in Myanmar

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Evidence of rioting on a street in Imphal, the capital of the northeastern Indian state of Manipur, on May 4. Meitei community members reportedly attacked another ethnic group, the Kuki, seen as unfairly including people from Myanmar in a contest for scarce resources.

Deadly clashes traced to perceived discrimination, benefits for poor tribes

BY ANANT GUPTA AND KARISHMA MEHROTRA

IMPHAL, INDIA — The capital of India's Manipur state, Imphal, until very recently boasted shiny showrooms featuring international brands and hosted delegates from the world's wealthiest countries for Group of 20 meetings, showing this border province as part of a prosperous, new business-minded India on the rise. Now it is a city of blackened and abandoned buildings and is filled with soldiers, relief workers and the displaced.

For much of the first week of May, mob violence raged through this state of 3 million people, leaving 70 dead, 48,000 displaced and whole villages, including temples and churches, in flames as simmering ethnic tensions, fueled in part by disputes over refugees from neighboring Myanmar, burst into the open. Spasms of violence continued throughout the month.

The 2021 coup in neighboring Myanmar, also known as Burma, caused a rush of refugees across its thousand-mile porous border with India — and nearly a quarter of that border is with Manipur, an impoverished province of hilly forests that has its own history of ethnic strife. The upheaval is the latest indication of how Myanmar's woes are affecting the region and how the policies of India's governing Hindu nationalist party can exacerbate longstanding ethnic and religious friction in the country.

"Since the coup, this recent violence is the first time where we see that a large number of refugees have come in and created internal problems," said Gopal Krishna Pillai, a former home secretary and joint secretary in charge of India's whole northeast, echoing the official line that the refugees are to blame for the unrest.

Like much of India, Manipur has a complicated demography, with three major ethnic groups: a majority group, the Meiteis, which is mostly Hindu and dominates the political landscape; and two mostly Christian minority groups — the Nagas and the Kukis. The Kukis share strong ethnic links with Chin tribes of Myanmar that have been fleeing across the border. There also is competition over land ownership, with the Meiteis resenting the special legal protections enjoyed by the tribal communities.

The Meitei-dominated government of Manipur — run by a chief minister who is a member of the governing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) — has painted the Chin refugees as a threat, angering the Kuki tribes, which welcome those fleeing Myanmar.

Government measures seen by the Kukis as discriminatory prompted widespread protests that escalated into attacks on homes by each side. News of atrocities has sparked revenge attacks, and the government has throttled the internet in Manipur for the past three weeks to silence incendiary rhetoric.

"The Kukis who lived here and the refugees who came after the coup in Myanmar got together for the looting and burning," said Khamba, a Meitei who was evacuated from the border town of Moreh this month. He said he saw people ransack homes and set fire to temples. He sat in a converted hostel in Imphal, where boys played badminton with their flip-flops and a pile of donated clothing towered above the roughly 450 residents.

"We had to leave our homes because of illegal immigrants from Burma. We want to go back to our home because this is our country," he said, using only his first name out of fear for his safety.

Just 30 miles away in the town of Kangpokpi sat Letminlal Hoakip, a Kuki who fled Imphal after people set fire to homes and churches there. "We feel very angry when they call us Burmese refugees," he said as he ate a meager meal of rice and lentils with 200 other displaced people in a church compound. "They call us Burmese to politicize the issue, make it international, so the government will take some action against us."

Kim Gangte, a former member of the Indian Parliament who also fled Imphal, accused the BJP-led government of allowing the situation to escalate.

"Why have more than 200 churches been burned down in a democratic country like India, where everyone must enjoy the freedom of religion?" she said. "I am sad to say that the leadership did not take any precautions to cool down the tempers of people who fought so much in the media."

In 2021, the Myanmar military overthrew the democratically elected government, sparking a civil war that sent a new spate of refugees, mostly Chins, into India. With no official count, estimates of post-coup arrivals are as high as 70,000.

Officials also argue that the instability created by the civil war in Myanmar has boosted cross-border drug smuggling, with poppy cultivation and the opium trade escalating — a trend confirmed by a report in January by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

The Manipur government has justified its crackdown on what it calls illegal immigrants as part of its war on drugs, alleging that the Kuki-Chin tribes have links to the Myanmar drug mafia.

"The Chin-Kuki brothers . . . are encroaching everywhere and planting poppy and doing drugs business," Manipur Chief Minister Nongthombam Biren Singh said in a television interview in March. "So the government has gone all-out against these elements."

But some observers maintain that the government is scapegoating the tribal peoples. "Now, it is easier to target the Kukis as illegal immigrants," said Angshuman Choudhury, an expert on the region at the New Delhi-based Center for Policy Research. "The Kukis who have been living in Manipur for centuries are much older than the border."

Ajoy Kumar of the opposition Indian National Congress party visited Manipur this month as part of a delegation, and in a news conference Wednesday, he accused the BJP government of "creating cracks between the two communities."

"Words like 'illegal migrants', 'narcos' and 'poppy cultivators' were used for our own countrymen belonging to the Scheduled Tribes by Biren Singh himself," he said.

Since the coup, the Manipur government has escalated eviction and demolition drives in Kuki villages and has set up a population commission in response to rising demands from Meiteis that citizenship documents be checked to weed out illegal immigrants.

The government also accuses the Kukis, who live predominantly in the forested hills, of damaging the environment and used that as a grounds for their eviction. Once the violence began, many of the state forestry offices in Kuki regions were destroyed by rioters as symbols of state overreach.

Kuki elected officials in the state, most of them from the BJP, have submitted a letter to the Indian government demanding a separate administration, saying the state has been "partitioned" and that "our people can no longer exist under Manipur." Kuki BJP legislative member Paolienlal Haokip, who signed the letter, told The Washington Post that the "dangerous narrative" about illegal immigrants made the "civil strife imminent."

As for the rise in poppy cultivation, Moirangthem Arunkumar a professor at Imphal's Manipur University, said the war on drugs should not target growers, who are not the financiers but the daily-wage earners without other livelihood options. "The war on drugs feels like a war on a particular community."

India also has avoided condemning the Myanmar coup or classifying the fleeing Chin as refugees, partly to keep from antagonizing the Myanmar junta and out of fear of that country's turning to China, India's regional rival.

It was not always this way. When unrest in Myanmar sent refugees over the border in 1962 and 1988, a much poorer India welcomed them in the thousands with open arms and even backed the pro-democracy movement in 1988 before the military crushed it.

"That was a very different India. Our reflexes have changed," said Gautam Mukhopadhaya, a former ambassador of India to Myanmar.

U.S. among 17 countries that practice 'modern slavery,' report finds

BY MIRIAM BERGER

The 13th Amendment abolished slavery in the United States in 1865, with one exception: compulsory labor in prisons.

"Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States," it reads.

Nearly 160 years later, the United States is one of only 17 countries that still impose compulsory work, according to a report released this week by Walk Free, an Australian human rights groups.

The category encompasses state-sanctioned forced labor in militaries, fields, factories and prisons. In many U.S. prisons, inmates are compelled to work for far below minimum wage and without other legal protections.

Types of state-imposed labor vary — from prisons, both state and federal, public and private, as in the United States, to the widespread use of work camps and abuse of conscripts in repressive countries such as North Korea and Eritrea.

The report, a global census of modern-day enslavement based on data from 2021, also finds evidence of state-imposed forced labor in Belarus, Brazil, China, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Mongolia, Myanmar, Poland, Russia, Rwanda, Turkmenistan, Vietnam and Zimbabwe.

Under international law, governments can require people to work under certain conditions, such as conscription and states of emergency. But "a state exceeds these limits when it compels citizens to work as a punishment for expressing or acting on political views, or for the purpose of economic development, or as a means of racial, ethnic, social, or religious discrimination," according to standards summarized in the report.

Worldwide, authorities forced about 3.9 million people to work in 2021 — among about 50 million people enslaved in involuntary labor or marriage, according to estimates in the report, produced in collaboration with the United Nations' International Labor Organization and International Organization for Migration.

The estimates are likely to be undercounts, as "modern slavery" often remains hidden and taboo to discuss, said Jacqueline Joudo Larsen, Walk Free's deputy director and head of global research. The report surveys 160 countries. Some, such as Yemen and Syria, are too dangerous to access fully. The analysis uses the term "modern slavery" to encompass legal concepts prohibiting "situations of exploitation that a person cannot refuse or leave because of threats, violence, coercion, deception, and/or abuse of power."

The index offers a conservative estimate that 1 in 150 people are enslaved worldwide. The figure rises to 1 in 130 for women and girls. The index found the highest rate of slavery in Afghanistan, Eritrea, Kuwait, Mauritania, North Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates.

RICH PEDRONCELLI/AP

Prison inmates clean newly installed headstones at the Mormon Island Relocation Cemetery near Folsom, Calif., in 2011.

More than half of enslaved people live in Group of 20 countries, a bloc made up of the world's richest economies, the report finds. G-20 countries annually import about $468 billion worth of products at risk of being made by the labor of enslaved people, according to the report.

Although they are estimates, the figures aim to highlight how pervasive modern-day slavery remains across the world, through debt bondage, human trafficking, forced marriage and involuntary labor, Joudo Larsen said.

Within these broader categories, state-imposed labor "is one of the forms of modern slavery that could be addressed relatively quickly as it's about state policies," she said.

The report highlights three broad kinds of state-compelled labor. The abuse of detainees — in Belarus Brazil, China, Libya, North Korea, Poland, Russia, Turkmenistan, the United States, Vietnam and Zimbabwe — account for more than half of reports analyzed.

About one-fourth of cases concern the abuse of conscripts, in such countries as Eritrea, Egypt, Mali and Mongolia. About 17 percent involve people being forced to work for the state's economic gain, such as compulsory cotton picking in Turkmenistan, or cases of Myanmar forcing ethnic minorities to work for the military or other authorities.

The slavery index does not rank countries according to the prevalence of state-compelled labor because of a lack of sufficient data, Joudo Larsen said, though North Korea and Eritrea, which top the overall slavery index, are probably the worst violators.

Eritrea has mandatory — and indefinite — conscription for all males between 18 and 40. According to a 2015 report by a U.N. inquiry commission, "the indefinite duration of national service, its terrible conditions — including arbitrary detention, torture, sexual torture, forced labour, absence of leave and the ludicrous pay … make national service an institution where slavery-like practices are routine."

In North Korea, an estimated 1 in 10 people are enslaved, most of whom are forced to work by the state, according to the report and other U.N. findings.

The United States has the world's highest incarceration rate. A 2022 report by the American Civil Liberties Union found that about two-thirds of prisoners in public and private institutions, or about 800,000 people, were forced to work. Many faced punishment for refusal. Nationally, prisoners are paid a pretax hourly average wage of 52 cents, and in some states nothing, while producing billions of dollars in goods and services for prisons, according to the ACLU.

"The roots of modern prison labor can be found in the ratification of this exception clause at the end of the Civil War, which disproportionately encouraged the criminalization and effective re-enslavement of Black people during the Jim Crow era, with impacts that persist to this day," the ACLU found in a 2022 report.

Supporters of compulsory prison labor in the United States argue that the practice is constitutional, offsets prison costs and helps rehabilitate prisoners into the workforce.

Of the 17 nations accused of forcing people to work, the United States ranked highest in the index's list of countries moving toward reform. For the United States, those efforts are complicated by its decentralized system of federal, state and privately run prisons. In the 2022 midterms, Alabama, Oregon, Tennessee and Vermont voted to ban prison labor in their state constitutions, joining a handful of others. Court cases challenging involuntary prison labor are ongoing in several states.

Globally, the practice of "modern slavery" is not shrinking. Since Walk Free's previous assessment, in 2018, an estimated additional 10 million people were forced into slavery worldwide.

The increase came "against a backdrop of increasing and more complex conflicts, widespread environmental degradation, climate-induced migration, a global rollback of women's rights, and the economic and social impacts of the covid-19 pandemic," the 2021 report finds.

"It is a problem of our own making," Joudo Larsen said. "So it is completely within our power to address."

Passenger arrested after opening the door of an airplane mid-flight

BY JOE SNELL AND ANDREA SACHS

A passenger caused chaos on an Asiana Airlines flight over South Korea on Friday by opening a door, injuring at least 12 people, who were treated for breathing problems.

The plane was traveling from the southern island of Jeju to the city of Daegu, about an hour away, and was minutes from landing at Daegu International Airport when the incident unfolded. The plane landed safely in Daegu, authorities told the Associated Press.

Police detained a 33-year-old man suspected of throwing the door open, South Korea's Yonhap News Agency reported. Police said the man confessed to opening the door but would not say why he did it.

South Korea's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport said in a statement that any person who breaches the Aviation Security Act — actions that include passengers operating doors, exits or equipment inside an aircraft — could be prosecuted and sentenced to up to 10 years in prison.

"I thought the plane was going to explode. . . . It looked like passengers next to the open door were fainting," a passenger told Yonhap.

In a video that appeared to have been captured by a passenger and shared widely on social media and distributed by Reuters, wind whips the plane's cabin, battering passengers and sending unsecured fabric flapping.

Such doors are difficult to open in the air. An aircraft's exits are designed to stay in place while withstanding significant pressure loads, said Nick Wilson, an associate professor of aviation at the University of North Dakota. "They're basically stuck in there."

Along with other aircraft systems, the sealed doors and emergency exits keep the cabin pressurized at altitude. Without cabin pressurization, passengers might not be able to get enough oxygen and could lose consciousness.

At lower altitudes, the pressure between the inside and outside of the plane decreases.

"This individual appears to have been able to open a door on approach," Wilson said. "At a lower elevation, there's less differential pressure. That would be one of the important factors that allowed this door to be opened at all."

Flight attendants tried but failed to stop the man, Yonhap reported. "Flight attendants shouted for help from male passengers and people all around clung to him and pulled him in," a witness told the news agency.

The plane was carrying 200 people, including 194 passengers, South Korean outlets reported.

The airline's office at Daegu International could not immediately be reached for comment.

Spring in Ukraine signals new fighting season is here

Counterattack against occupying Russian forces seems imminent

BY ADAM TAYLOR AND ANASTACIA GALOUCHKA

ZAPORIZHZHIA REGION, UKRAINE — The armored vehicle, an old Soviet-designed 2S1 self-propelled howitzer, swung loudly around the corner. Atop sat four Ukrainian soldiers in summer uniforms, their feet dangling, a pack of Coca-Cola by their side.

One soldier raised an ice cream cone triumphantly above his head as he passed, while another waved the peace sign.

"It's vanilla," he said, when stopped and queried a few moments later.

Spring has finally sprung in southern Ukraine. And with temperatures hitting a high of 78 degrees last weekend, expectations of a long-awaited counteroffensive against occupying Russian forces are in full bloom.

An unusually rainy few months had left the ground muddy, sticky and unsuitable for heavy vehicles. But with the recent patch of dry weather, conditions are nearly optimal for the much-anticipated counterattack, which President Volodymyr Zelensky and others have described as a make-or-break chance to show Western backers that Ukraine is capable of taking back its land.

Although there have not yet been any dramatic troop movements like the lightning sweep by Ukrainian troops through the northeast Kharkiv region in the fall, the counteroffensive may already be underway — quietly.

On Thursday, an adviser to Zelensky, Mykhailo Podolyak, sought to reset any expectation that Kyiv would fire some kind of starting gun to announce the opening of the initiative.

"Once again about the counteroffensive," Podolyak tweeted. "1. This is not a 'single event' that will begin at a specific hour of a specific day with a solemn cutting of the red ribbon. 2. These are dozens of different actions to destroy the Russian occupation forces in different directions, which have already been taking place yesterday, are taking place today and will continue tomorrow. 3. Intensive destruction of enemy logistics is also a counteroffensive."

Podolyak's tweet was an effort to clarify things after the Italian broadcaster RAI quoted him in an interview as saying that the counteroffensive had already been underway for several days.

In the Zaporizhzhia region, which is expected to be a major focus of Ukrainian forces as they seek to recapture the city of Melitopol, the weather has been closely watched in recent weeks.

A push south through this largely agricultural area, now full of bright yellow fields with early summer's rapeseed crop, could allow Ukraine to break the "land bridge" between mainland Russia and illegally annexed Crimea, cutting off vital logistical supply lines and position Ukrainian troops for further attacks.

Such a campaign would also push the front line back from places like Orikhiv, a once-thriving town of 19,000 that now sits about three miles away from Russian lines and for months has suffered nearly daily attacks from shelling, according to Deputy Mayor Svitlana Mandrych.

"We've been hearing about this counteroffensive for so long," Mandrych, 52, said in an interview. "We just hope that it happens and that it is successful."

Orikhiv is now mostly abandoned, and Mandrych leads humanitarian relief efforts for the 1,400 or so residents who have stayed. "We're five kilometers from the front," she said. "We've always been in the line of fire."

Even far from the front line, in Kyiv and the central Ukrainian city of Dnipro, Russian missiles have wreaked havoc for the past month. On Friday, a Russian missile strike destroyed a hospital, killing two and injuring 30. Earlier that morning, Kyiv was hit with a missile strike — the 13th such attack since the beginning of May.

Talk of a spring offensive has dragged on for months. Zelensky and military commanders have said that they were waiting for more weapons, ammunition and other supplies to arrive. Ukrainian troops have also been training to use new Western-provided fighting vehicles and other gear.

But even if sufficient materiel was in place, the weather presented a more elemental obstacle. "It depends on God's mind-set and the weather conditions," as well as the force strength that can be mustered, Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov said when asked about the looming counterattack during an interview with The Washington Post early this month.

"This year there was an enormous level of water during the springtime — enormous," Reznikov said, adding that groundwater levels on May 1 were 4.7 inches higher than would normally be expected.

In Zaporizhzhia, the problem here could be described more simply: mud.

Ukraine's muddy season, known as "bezdorizhzhia" — "roadlessness" in Ukrainian — is an annual fact of life in Zaporizhzhia. The clay-heavy soil, which helps make Ukraine an agricultural powerhouse, simply does not drain well, resulting in a wet, gloopy mess that can bog down not only conventional vehicles with tires but also tracked vehicles like tanks or the 2S1 howitzer.

"It's the same soil you get in northwest France," said James Rands, a military expert with the British intelligence firm Janes, pointing to the site of famously muddy, bloody battles during World War I. "But by all accounts, it's worse."

While the muddy season should last only a few weeks, the weather did not cooperate this year. April was an "extremely wet month" in Ukraine, said Inbal Becker-Reshef, a researcher at the University of Maryland who tracks global weather patterns, with unusually low temperatures at the start of the month.

The weather has played a significant role in the war in Ukraine since Russia invaded last year.

The winter months over the end of 2021 and the start of 2022 were unusually mild, leading the mud to thaw earlier than usual. This led to an earlier muddy season, which saw numerous Russian tanks and other heavy vehicles stuck in fields or confined to paved roads, where they were easy targets for the Ukrainian defenders.

Now, warming weather provides other advantages, including better tree cover for troops and vehicles and more hours of daylight.

After a wet April, May has been remarkably dry, with temperatures often in the 70s. Becker-Reshef said that the lowest levels of soil moisture in Ukraine are now in Zaporizhzhia and Kherson, a neighboring region that could also serve as a front in the counterattack. Some areas are now even in a drought.

Ben Hodges, a former commander of U.S. Army Europe, said that ground conditions were certainly one factor that Ukraine would take into account in planning new offensive operations. "Is it dry enough to permit the churning and movements of hundreds of heavy, tracked armored vehicles and hundreds of support vehicles?" Hodges asked.

But he also stressed that it was just one of several factors, including the readiness of Ukrainian troops and whether their Russian adversaries had been degraded by airstrikes or distracted by prolonged fighting in certain areas like Bakhmut so as not to be able to anticipate Ukraine's next moves.

"Have the Russian commanders been confused enough as to time, method and location of the attacks?" Hodges wrote in an email.

Other experts said ground conditions were no longer a cause for delay. "The weather used to be one of the factors," Ukrainian military expert Oleksiy Melnyk said. "But not the main one."

In a field in western Zaporizhzhia, about an hour's drive from Orikhiv, the 1st Tank Battalion practiced offensive maneuvers on Wednesday with Soviet-developed T-64 tanks, plowing through the fields in formation and deploying smokescreens to practice clearing the agricultural lands now held by the Russians.

Temperatures had dipped slightly, with clouds on the horizon. T-64s have a habit of getting trapped in the mud, according to Yuri, a 29-year-old unit commander, but the ground was solid enough not only for tanks but also for regular vehicles.

After the exercise, the troops gathered around at a nearby house to watch drone footage of their performance over bowls of solyanka, a thick soup. Mykhailo, 39, the deputy battalion commander, was not impressed.

"What if this is our field and the orcs are there?" he said, referring to Russian troops. "What are you going to do? Shoot our own?"

"For this kind of maneuver, you'll get dragged into hell!" he said later.

In a town like Orikhiv, such training cannot conclude soon enough. Winter was hard and there is little chance to enjoy the warmer weather given near-daily bombardment. Many of the remaining residents spend 18 to 20 hours below ground.

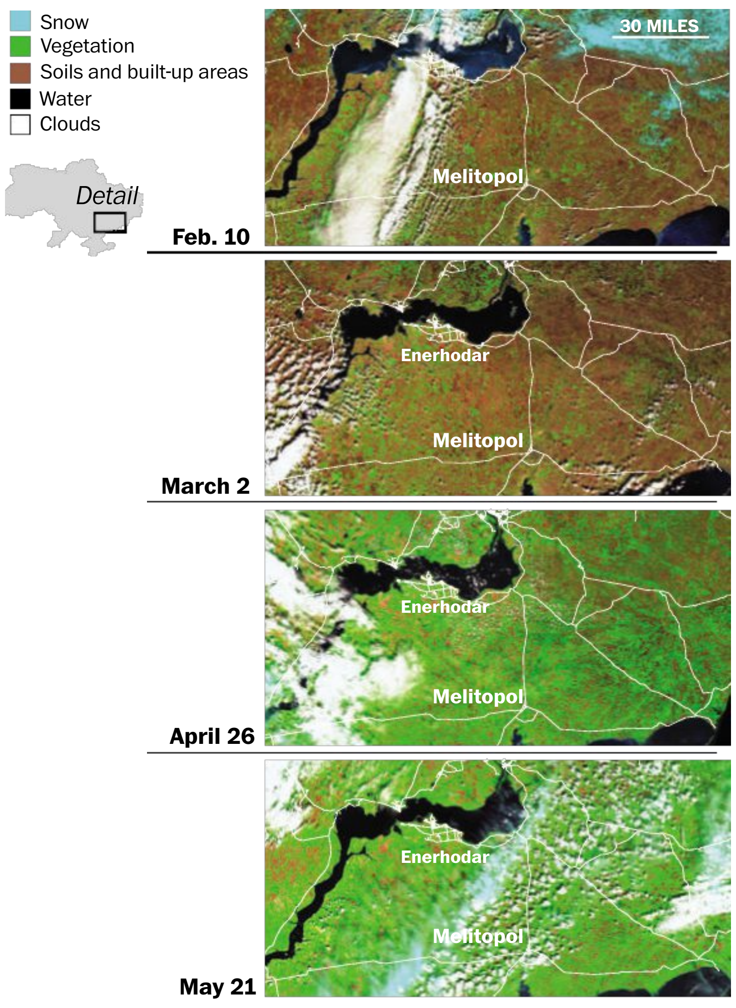
Mandrych, the deputy mayor, now lives and works in the basement of a municipal building where she and other volunteers have set up a system to distribute food and to provide WiFi, electricity and even hot showers in a city where few homes have any of that.

Mandrych and other remaining residents have even taken the time to replant some of the flowers along the city's central square. "We are keeping up our fighting spirit," she said.

Isobel Koshiw in Kyiv, Ukraine, contributed to this report.

Evolution of the soil conditions in southern Ukraine

As spring turns to summer, once muddy and impassable ground in southern Ukraine is firming up, as seen in infrared imagery captured by the Copernicus Sentinel satellite.



Source: Copernicus Sentinel

HEIDI LEVINE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A man fishes on a pond surrounded by wheat fields in the Zaporizhzhia region of Ukraine. An unusually rainy few months left the ground muddy and unsuitable for heavy vehicles, but recent dry weather has created optimal conditions for a much-anticipated counterattack.

China and Russia to boost trade, but scope might be limited

BY LILY KUO AND LYRIC LI

Chinese and Russian leaders this week pledged to expand economic cooperation in everything from sports to agriculture and predicted that trade between the two countries would hit a record high this year as Sino-Russian ties are elevated to yet a "higher level."

Expanding economic ties would cement Beijing's role as an economic lifeline to an increasingly isolated Moscow as the war in Ukraine continues. Yet despite officials' lofty ambitions, the scope may be limited, especially beyond energy.

On a state visit to China this week, Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin signed various pacts on deepening investment cooperation in trade services and exporting more Russian agricultural products to China. Bilateral trade, he said, would reach or exceed $200 billion this year.

While China is Russia's largest trading partner, Russia is a small market for China. Exports to Russia in 2022 accounted for just 2 percent of China's total exports, though they are on the rise. April's exports of $9.62 billion were a 153 percent increase from the year before.

"China-Russia ties are growing but in the grand scheme of things, they remain pretty small," said Agathe Demarais, global forecasting director at the Economist Intelligence Unit in London.

"Russia has lost access to its largest energy market, which was Europe, and high-tech products, [and] car parts from Western countries and what we see is that China is not fully making up for that. It's helping but it's not a magic fix," she said. China also faces U.S. export controls to restrict its access to high-tech chips.

Trade between the two countries has long been dominated by energy, machinery, electronics and more recently cars and other transportation equipment, with China basically trading its machines for Russia's oil and gas.

For the first quarter of this year, machinery and electrical equipment accounted for 60 percent of China's exports to Russia, while energy and mineral resources accounted for 79 percent of China's imports from Russia.

Bilateral trade increased more than 30 percent in 2022 to reach $190 billion, mostly as a result of Chinese purchases of Russian oil, gas and coal.

But other non-energy categories, from beer and seafood to industrial machinery, cars and appliances, are increasing too. In April, exports of cars and auto components rose more than 500 percent from a year ago to $2 billion.

Chinese brands, from condiments to appliances, are increasingly appearing in Russian supermarkets. Trade in household items grew, with mattress sales jumping 256 percent to $2.1 million and exports of washing machines rising 534 percent to $28 million. Chinese shipments of seafood also increased more than 300 percent to $15 million.

Still, attracting private Chinese businesses to the Russian market will be difficult. Worries about the Russian economy and the possibility of secondary sanctions have already put off Chinese investors.

"China-Russian economic and trade exchanges are more politically oriented, with mainly state-owned enterprises leading the way," said Wan Qingsong, a research fellow at the Center for Russian Studies of Shanghai-based East China Normal University.

"Private companies are less motivated to tap that market due to a lack of immediate returns. When there's not enough investment, China and Russia will find it hard to go beyond what they have now," he said.

The fact the trade boom is driven by external crisis also underlines its fragility, Wan said.

Expanding Russia-China economic ties would represent a shift in a relationship that has chiefly been about political alignment against the West.

"The trade side of the relationship has always lagged behind the strategic relationship, but since the war the trade side really has accelerated," said Joseph Torigian, an assistant professor at American University in D.C. who researches China and Russia.

For China, bolstering the economic relationship could have a downside of complicating efforts to appear neutral on the Ukraine war while also supporting Moscow. In recent months, Beijing has tried to present itself as a potential peacemaker in the conflict.

Following Mishustin's visits, English-language articles in the state-run Global Times stressed that China-Russia cooperation "has nothing to do with the Ukraine crisis."

"For the Chinese, it's kind of a double-edged sword in the sense that they want to benefit from the economic trade, but at the same time they want to be careful about not allowing this trade relationship to lead to conclusions in places like Europe that the Chinese are directly enabling Russian aggression," said Torigian.

Files show 1983 threat to queen on visit to U.S.

BY VICTORIA BISSET

LONDON — The FBI uncovered a potential threat to kill Queen Elizabeth II during the 1980s while she was visiting the United States, files released online by the agency show.

The queen and her husband, Prince Philip, visited the United States from February to March 1983, at a time when Northern Ireland was experiencing a long period of sectarian violence known as the Troubles.

According to the 102-page document from the FBI's online vault, the threat came in a phone call from a man who claimed his daughter had been killed by a rubber bullet fired by British forces in Northern Ireland.

The man said he "was going to attempt to harm Queen Elizabeth" during her trip by dropping an object onto the royal yacht from San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge or in an attack when she visited Yosemite National Park, the report said.

The intelligence came via a police officer who frequented a pub popular with sympathizers of the paramilitary Irish Republican Army (IRA), which opposed British rule in Northern Ireland, the report added.

The report also noted that the U.S. Secret Service was planning to close the Golden Gate Bridge's pedestrian walkway, but the document did not contain details of any arrests.

The files give an insight into the FBI's efforts to manage risks arising from the monarch's private and public visits to the United States from the 1970s onward, and they note that "several anonymous threatening telephone calls" about her were made to local police.

Many of the perceived threats the FBI assessed were related to the IRA, which killed the queen's cousin Louis Mountbatten with a bomb planted on his fishing boat in Ireland in 1979.

In another entry about Elizabeth's 1983 visit, police warned the FBI that "it will be very hard to anticipate and prevent incidents which may embarrass either the queen" or the then-president, Ronald Reagan.

In the end, her visit took place without any major incidents. Reagan hosted the queen at an official dinner where she toasted the United States' contribution to "the western alliance," and she in turn welcomed the Reagans on the Royal Yacht Britannia for their 31st wedding anniversary. Some of the queen's schedule was canceled because of heavy rain — prompting her to joke that the United States had caught British weather, The Washington Post reported at the time.

The FBI records reveal the agency's considerations about other protests planned for the queen's visits — including a Northern Irish group's plans to hold a soup line with free beer to protest the visit, demonstrations planned for when the queen attended a baseball game, and an incident in which a pilot received a summons after flying a small plane trailing a banner bearing the words "England, get out of Ireland" over New York's Battery Park during the monarch's visit for the U.S. bicentennial in 1976.

The FBI, which released the information in response to a Freedom of Information Act request from NBC News, said additional files may exist, although it did not specify when they might be released.

From the late 1960s until the Good Friday Agreement of 1998, violence between Irish nationalists and pro-British unionists in Northern Ireland claimed the lives of 3,600 people and wounded tens of thousands more.

The queen's death last year sparked mixed reactions in the Republic of Ireland, where the legacy of decades-long violence and colonialism are still felt.

In 2011, Elizabeth became the first British monarch to travel to the Republic of Ireland since its independence in 1922 — voicing her "sincere thoughts and deep sympathy" to "all those who have suffered as a consequence of our troubled past."

"With the benefit of historical hindsight, we can all see things which we would wish had been done differently or not at all," she said at the time, a year before she shared a historic handshake with a former commander of the IRA.

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

KIICHIRO SATO/AP

A de-icing agent is applied to a SkyWest airplane at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago in 2019. SkyWest asked the Transportation Department if it could operate with relaxed rules for pilot experience and age if it decreased the number of seats on its planes.

Regional airline asks to operate under charter rules, sparking safety debate

BY IAN DUNCAN

Wrestling with what it says is an ongoing shortage of pilots, a large but little-known airline had an idea: By tearing 20 seats from some of its 50-seat regional jets, maybe it could fly under a less-stringent set of federal safety rules, opening the door to less-experienced or older pilots.

The approach — currently limited to niche players in the aviation industry — could help ensure passengers can reach small airports that receive federal subsidies. The proposal has the backing of communities across the country desperate to maintain jet service they regard as an economic lifeline.

But labor unions, the families of crash victims and a key Senate subcommittee chair have argued in recent weeks that the idea amounts to a major carrier seeking to exploit a loophole in aviation regulations and puts safety at risk. Addressing a crowd of aviation industry leaders at a Washington hotel this week, the head of the nation's largest pilot union said the proposal would roll standards back.

"One set of rules on a Tuesday, a different and less-safe set on a Wednesday," said Jason Ambrosi, president of the Air Line Pilots Association. "That's not how the system is supposed to work."

The proposal, pitched by SkyWest Airlines, needs approval from the Transportation Department. The application has opened a thorny question: When is an airline not exactly an airline?

Regional airlines like SkyWest have been squeezed since the beginning of the pandemic, pulling back from some markets as they scramble to find qualified pilots. They're easily overlooked by travelers, often operating under the brands of major carriers, but they play a key role in ferrying air passengers to big hubs. Looking to speed hiring, corporate leaders have been pitching regulators on ways to ease pilot qualification rules clashing with labor unions along the way.

Air service for about a dozen small communities is hanging in the balance.

Last spring, SkyWest told the Transportation Department that pilot staffing challenges meant the carrier could not continue to serve those markets, then proposed a new charter model — which allows no more than 30 passenger seats on a plane — as an alternative. But with the overarching authorization for the charter operation still pending, the Transportation Department has rejected some of SkyWest's individual subsidy bids, leaving communities in a bind.

The Transportation Department declined to comment on SkyWest's proposal.

The issue revolves, in large part, around rules for pilot qualifications. At the junior end of the industry, airline first officers are generally required to have 1,500 hours of flight experience. At the senior end, pilots face mandatory retirement at age 65. SkyWest's charter operation would not be bound by those rules, allowing it to draw from a reservoir of less-experienced pilots and those who have aged out of airline flight decks but who want to keep flying.

SkyWest has pushed back against criticism of the plan, blasting opponents as "special interest groups." The airline says it would initially run the charter operation with two captains at the controls and it would abide by other safety rules that apply to traditional airlines, including fatigue regulations for pilots.

Chip Childs, SkyWest's chief executive, said the company did not "currently anticipate" recruiting first officers below the 1,500-hour standard, but acknowledged it is interested in recruiting older pilots.

"We've openly shared that we are hiring senior, experienced captains," Childs said through a company spokeswoman. "Indeed, that includes some who may be well qualified, fit, and capable of flying safely beyond age 65."

The operation would be run by a separate corporate entity called SkyWest Charter, which executives say has Federal Aviation Administration approval. The charter service already has started performing flights for sports teams and business customers.

If the airline-like service is approved, Childs said it would aim to operate in partnership with major airlines — including under code-share agreements — but he said charter flights would be "clearly identified."

Ambrosi said prospective passengers wouldn't know they were boarding a flight operating under a different set of safety rules.

"They would have no idea," he said.

The SkyWest application has opened the door to questions about the use of charter flights to provide something akin to airline service.

American Airlines this month asked the Transportation Department to look at the issue. In a letter focused on carrier JSX, which operates routes across the Southwest, American said the charter company has an unfair advantage because it doesn't use Transportation Security Administration gates.

"American believes that the 'scheduled charter' model as leveraged by JSX degrades our nation's aviation system and distorts competition," wrote Molly Wilkinson, American's vice president for regulatory affairs. "DOT should end this misuse."

Southwest Airlines said it also has concerns about the practice.

"Southwest supports the position of airline industry pilots, flight attendants, and air traffic controllers who believe that there needs to be one level of safety for anyone flying on a scheduled passenger carrier," the airline said in a statement.

Ben Kaufman, a spokesman for JSX, said the carrier has operated safely since 2016 and provides needed competition in the industry.

"JSX employs some of the world's most experienced pilots, including pilots who have flown for US major carriers and former NASA astronauts, and utilizes state-of-the-art safety and TSA-approved security practices and technologies that exceed applicable safety and security regulations in the U.S.," he said in an email.

The 1,500-hour rule was instituted after the 2009 crash of a regional plane near Buffalo. The families of the crash victims have been among the rule's most ardent defenders as it has faced challenges from airlines who argue it is too onerous and has left them struggling to recruit pilots. In September, the FAA rejected a proposal by SkyWest competitor Republic Airways to effectively cut the requirement in half for pilots it put through a special training regimen.

Families of the Buffalo victims wrote to Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg this month asking him to reject what they see as the latest assault on the rule.

"We lost our loved ones — children, parents, spouses, siblings and others — because of the gap between the level of safety offered by the major carriers and the regional airlines in 2009," said Karen Eckert, whose sister Beverly Eckert died in the crash. "We know the consequences of a lower level of safety. It is unbelievable that anyone would consider creating this scenario again."

Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), chairwoman of a Senate aviation subcommittee, also wrote to Buttigieg urging him to block SkyWest's proposal.

Congress will have its own opportunity to weigh in this year as it considers a bill to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration. Some lawmakers have called for raising the retirement age for airline pilots to 67. A bill introduced this month would launch a study of the effects of pilot shortages on regional airlines.

For now, some communities say they view SkyWest's proposal as their best hope of retaining service that appeals to travelers and provides a reliable link to the rest of the national aviation system.

Leaders in Dodge City, Kan., have been particularly vocal, pushing back against a competitor to SkyWest that is pitching a service using propeller-powered aircraft while adhering to the standard airline rules. Nickolaus Hernandez, the city's manager, wrote to the Transportation Department saying he thought the competing proposal would not be able to find qualified pilots that met the airline regulations "given the massive shortage."

"We look forward to many years of reliable regional jet service by SkyWest Charter," Hernandez wrote.

But not every community served by SkyWest is convinced that charter service is a good substitute. Officials in Scottsbluff, Neb., aren't worried about the safety implications of the proposal, but question whether charter flights would provide the same links to major airlines. In the meantime, the Transportation Department has ordered SkyWest to continue flying to the airport using its regular airline service.

"If we can't code-share, my passengers will drive to Denver," said Raul Aguallo, director of Western Nebraska Regional Airport. "It's not convenient anymore."

Musk's Neuralink says it has FDA approval to 'launch' human trials

BY DANIEL GILBERT AND FAIZ SIDDIQUI

Neuralink, Elon Musk's brain-implant company, said Thursday evening that it has regulatory approval to conduct the first clinical trial of its experimental device in humans.

Approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration would mark a milestone for the company, which has been developing a device surgically inserted into the brain by a robot and capable of decoding brain activity and linking it to computers. Up until now, the company has conducted research only in animals.

"We are excited to share that we have received the FDA's approval to launch our first-in-human clinical study!" Neuralink announced on Twitter, calling it "an important first step that one day will allow our technology to help many people." Musk retweeted the post, congratulating his team.

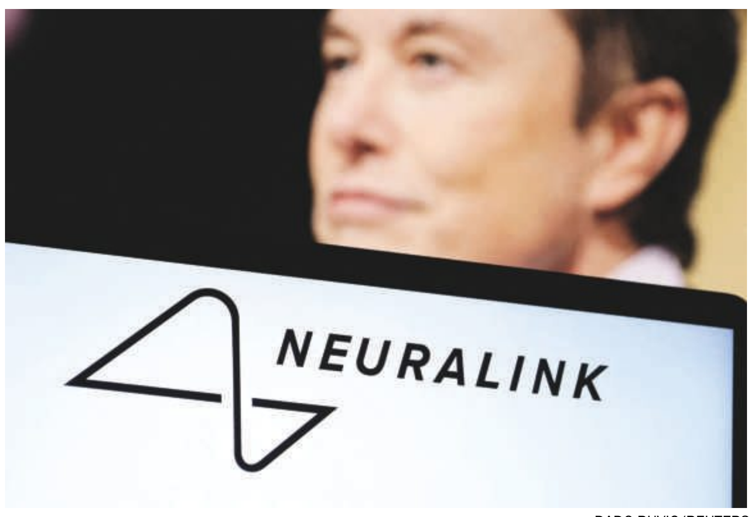
Neuralink didn't respond to a request for comment.

The FDA doesn't typically confirm approvals for human clinical trials but offered a statement Friday.

"The FDA acknowledges and understands that Neuralink has announced that its investigational device exemption . . . for its implant/R1 robot was approved by the FDA and that it may now begin conducting human clinical trials for its device," an agency spokesperson said in a statement Friday.

Musk has prematurely touted regulatory approval in the past. In 2017, he wrote on Twitter that his tunneling firm, the Boring Company, had received "verbal govt approval" for an underground Hyperloop from New York to Washington, D.C. Officials at the time offered no direct confirmation of Musk's claim — and it was clear there were no formal measures to approve such a project.

With Musk's backing, Neuralink has brought extraordinary resources — and investor attention — to a field known as brain-computer interface, where scientists and engineers are developing electronic implants that would decode brain activity and communicate it to computers.



DADO RUVIC/REUTERS

Elon Musk's brain-implant company Neuralink said it got approval from the Food and Drug Administration to begin tests on humans.

Such technology, which has been in the works for decades, has the potential to restore function to people with paralysis and debilitating conditions like amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

While most companies seeking to commercialize brain implants are focused on those with medical needs, Neuralink has even bigger ambitions: creating a device that not only restores human function but enhances it.

"We want to surpass able-bodied human performance with our technology," Neuralink tweeted in April.

What is Neuralink's brain chip technology?

The company has designed an electrode-laden computer chip to be sewn into the surface of the brain, and a robotic device to perform the surgery.

Neuralink is pursuing a more invasive, high-bandwidth approach than some of its rivals, betting that its configuration will transfer data from brain to computer more rapidly than devices with fewer electrodes or that sit outside the brain's surface.

Musk envisions that the devices could be regularly upgraded.

"I'm pretty sure you would not want the iPhone 1 stuck in your head if the iPhone 14 is available," Musk said at an event in late November, where he predicted Neuralink would begin human trials in six months.

The brain-computer interface is one of Musk's most ambitious bets in a business empire that spans electric cars to rockets propelling humans to space and that has grown most recently to encompass generative artificial intelligence and social media.

Musk earlier this year incorporated a company, X.AI, that aims to compete with Microsoft and Google after the tech giants launched large language-model chatbots that can answer a vast range of queries.

Meanwhile, he has been devoting much of his time in recent months to Twitter, the social media company he bought last year for $44 billion while pledging to restore "free speech."

Musk's frenetic schedule has him juggling commitments to each of the companies at once. He travels the country by private jet, visiting his Tesla factories and SpaceX launch sites and giving speeches for Twitter and visiting its Bay Area headquarters — sometimes all in the same week.

Musk announced earlier this month that he was appointing advertising executive Linda Yaccarino as Twitter's chief executive, relieving him of some of the responsibility for overseeing the social media platform that has been plunged into chaos since his takeover last year.

DIGEST

TRADE

China, Congo leaders meet in Beijing

Chinese President Xi Jinping met his counterpart from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Felix Tshisekedi, on Friday in Beijing as the two countries seek to relaunch a partnership worth tens of billions of dollars in trade each year.

The governments agreed to conduct regular reviews of their cooperation in the mining industry and address related disputes through "friendly negotiations," Chinese state broadcaster CCTV reported, citing a joint statement from the two nations.

They also announced their bilateral relationship will be upgraded to a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership.

China is the main destination for most of Congo's minerals, but Tshisekedi has become disgruntled by what he sees as his country's meager take from the arrangement.

— Bloomberg News

TECHNOLOGY

Study: AI threatens jobs held by women

While artificial intelligence is seeding upheaval across the workforce, including screenwriters and financial advisers, the technology will disproportionately replace jobs typically held by women, according to human resources analytics firm Revelio Labs.

Revelio Labs identified jobs that are most likely to be replaced by AI based on a study by the National Bureau of Economic Research. They then identified the gender breakdown of those jobs and found that many of them are generally held by women, such as bill collectors, payroll clerks and secretaries.

— Bloomberg News

ALSO IN BUSINESS

Clothing retailers win on profits, but sales tell another story: First-quarter results from apparel retailers including Kohl's, Gap and Guess? all impressed investors this week with better-than-expected earnings and margin improvements. Sales, on the other hand, fell across the board. The progress on profitability is likely to continue throughout the year as transportation and raw-material costs come down, and as retailers offer fewer discounts now that they've whittled down bloated inventories. But macroeconomic uncertainty and increasingly conservative purchasing decisions suggest sales growth will be strained for some time. Economic data indicates that consumers are shifting their spending away from nonessentials like apparel, home goods and electronics as the pandemic-induced shopping binge comes to a close.

— From news services

Ford EVs to get access to Tesla charging network next year

BY JEANNE WHALEN

Ford's electric-vehicle customers will be able to use Tesla's charging network starting next year, the companies announced, in a rare partnership between rival automakers.

Gaining access to 12,000 Tesla Superchargers will more than double the size of the fast-charging network available to Ford EV drivers, who can currently use Ford's BlueOval network.

In February, the White House announced that Tesla would open part of its U.S. charging network to non-Tesla EVs by the end of 2024, a move necessary for Tesla to become eligible to tap some of the $7.5 billion in federal subsidies that Congress is plowing into charging infrastructure.

Tesla and Twitter head Elon Musk and Ford chief executive Jim Farley announced the deal Thursday in a discussion on Twitter Spaces.

The companies did not disclose the financial terms of the deal and did not immediately respond to questions about that.

"We don't want the Tesla Supercharger network to be like a walled garden," Musk said. "We want it to be something that is supportive of electrification and sustainable transport in general."

Ford's EV customers initially will be able to use a plug adapter to tap into the Tesla chargers, Farley said. Starting in 2025, Ford vehicles, including the Mustang Mach-E and F-150 Lightning, will come with the correct charging port — known as the NACS, for North American Charging Standard — removing the need for an adapter. Ford customers will be able to pay to use Tesla chargers through their usual Ford app, the companies said.

Farley said a family vacation to Lake Tahoe last year helped convince him of the need to tap Tesla's network.

"My kids kept looking at me and going: 'Hey, Dad, there's another Supercharger. Can we stop there? How about there?'" Farley told Musk. "I was like, 'No, we have to go over here behind this other building.' So it kind of became obvious to me the job your team had done and what it means for customers."

Tesla still has the lion's share of the U.S. EV market, but Ford and others have started to make inroads. Early this year Ford was in second place, with about 7 percent of new EV registrations in the United States.

DAVID DEE DELGADO/REUTERS

A Ford Mustang Mach-E at the New York International Auto Show last month. In 2025, the Mustang Mach-E and other Ford vehicles won't need an adapter for the Tesla chargers.

At Cannes Film Festival, TikTok is inescapable

The app is trying to position itself as a top entertainment platform

BY TAYLOR LORENZ

CANNES, FRANCE — TikTok may be unwelcomed in Washington and Montana's capital, Helena, where the state legislature has passed a statewide ban that goes into effect next year. But it's been embraced here at the annual Cannes Film Festival, which draws thousands of filmmakers, entertainment industry executives and actors to what is generally considered the world's premier entertainment industry event.

For the second year in a row, TikTok handed out film awards of its own at a ceremony overlooking the smooth waters of the Mediterranean. Its young creators have been on the red carpet interviewing stars alongside journalists from traditional media. The festival's opening ceremony was live-streamed directly on TikTok, and celebrities have made TikTok their primary platform for documenting their adventures at the festival; on Tuesday, for instance, Eva Longoria asked her TikTok followers for help in selecting an outfit for a red carpet event.

All of this is part of TikTok's ongoing quest to position itself not just as a social media platform but as a premiere entertainment destination.

"At Cannes you have the most established filmmakers, you have directors, you have talent, you have studios, you name it," Rich Waterworth, TikTok's general manager for Europe, told The Washington Post. "The whole world of cinema is coming together here and sharing their creativity … and that's why we exist."

Debate among politicians in the United States may be about TikTok's ownership by a corporation based in China. But the conversation at Cannes is about how TikTok can position itself as one of the world's foremost venues for creative video. The app has over 1 billion monthly users worldwide. The festival ends Saturday.

TikTok has worked overtime to highlight its role as a place for the next generation of Hollywood talent to be discovered and nurtured. The company sent a slew of employees from around the world to the festival, flying teams in from Australia, Britain and Los Angeles. Staff helped TikTok creators secure invitations to important festival events, and several TikTokers have walked the red carpet at movie premieres. TikTok A-listers including Chris Olsen, a star who was named TikTok's Sexiest Man by People Magazine in 2020, and the D'Amelio family, whose daughters are among the most followed users on the app, have been spotted in Cannes this week.

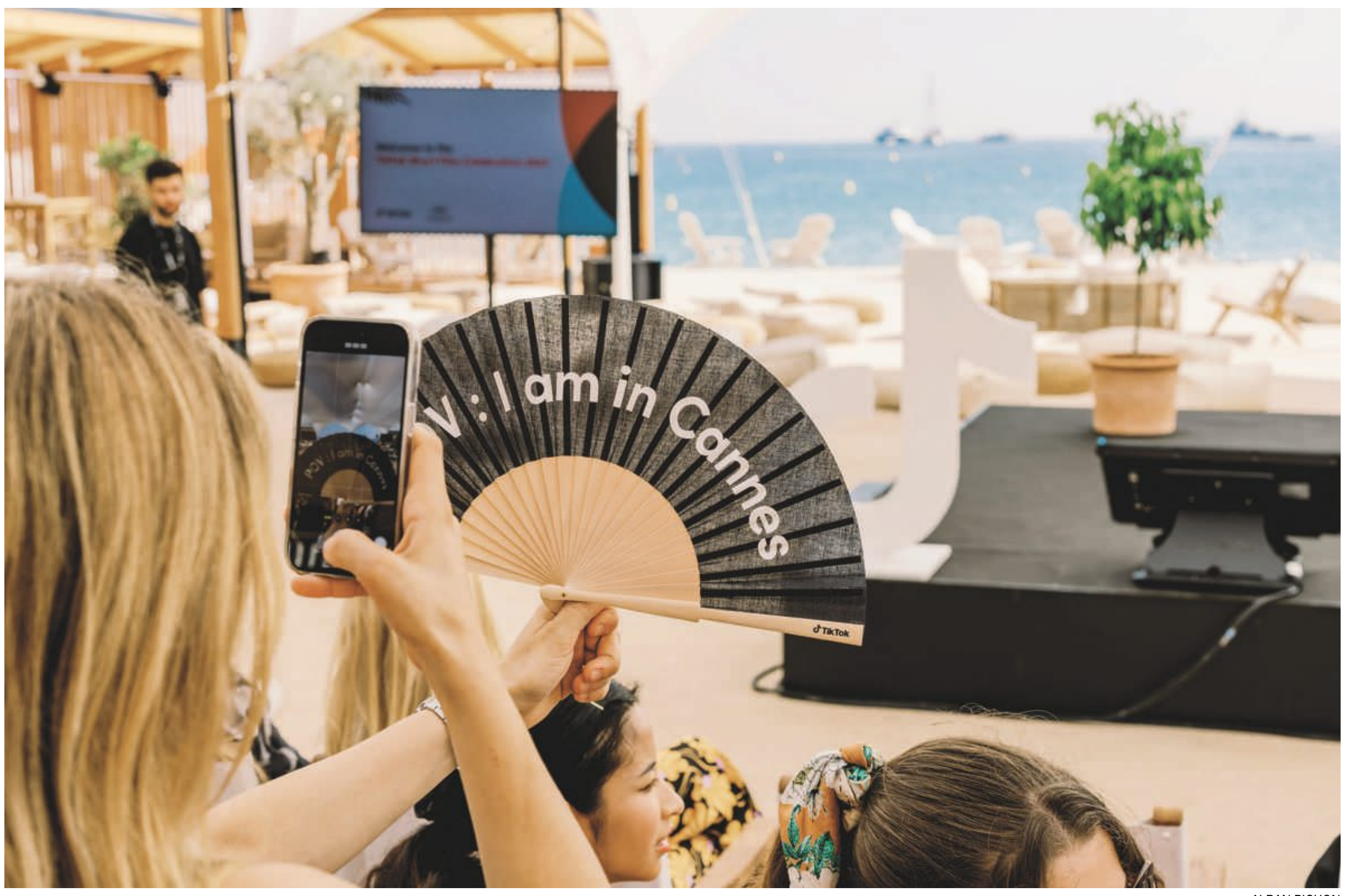
The film festival itself has had a fraught relationship with social media. Selfies are still formally banned from the red carpet, but some social media creators like Reece Feldman, who has 1.8 million followers on the app, still documented their red carpet experiences on TikTok. Outside the Hotel Martinez, where many celebrities are staying, lines of fans waited for hours in the hot sun hoping to record a single viral clip of their favorite star. Many of those had the TikTok app open on their phone, ready to film at the first celebrity sighting.

TikTok became an elite sponsor of the event last year for the first time but had a rocky start. French Cambodian director Rithy Panh, who was set to judge last year's TikTok short-film competition, temporarily resigned from the event, claiming that TikTok executives were trying to influence the jury's choice in the winner. The two parties eventually smoothed things over, and Panh rejoined the jury.

Cannes chief Thierry Frémaux told Variety in March that the festival had partnered with TikTok "to address younger and more international audiences." And he said the app's "numbers are really impressive. We also know that TikTok raises a lot of questions from governments because it's a Chinese firm."

But Waterworth brushed off the concerns when asked about them this week and said that the "dynamics are not the same" surrounding the app outside of the United States. He also stressed the global nature of TikTok's user base.

A TikTok star and filmmaker who goes by the name Samba, who was judging the app's short-film awards at Cannes, said that he's already seeing TikTok's impact on the content young filmmakers are creating, especially when it comes to sound design, color and editing. Young filmmakers who leverage TikTok create films that are fast and engaging, with rapid pacing, bright colors and always shot vertically, Samba and other judges said.



ALBAN PICHON

A guest takes a photo at the #TikTokShortFilm competition in Cannes, France. This is the second year in a row that TikTok has handed out film awards at its own ceremony. Last year, TikTok became an elite sponsor of the film festival.

BOYER DAVID/ABACA/SHUTTERSTOCK

TikTok has worked to highlight its role as a place for the next generation of Hollywood talent to be discovered and nurtured.

"Filmmaking is going more and more in the way of vertical videos," said Younes Zarou, a 25-year-old German TikTok star with over 52 million followers who is attending the Cannes film festival, referring to TikTok's format. "TikTok was the first mover in that space, and now other platforms request vertical videos."

Zarou said he believes that major motion pictures might soon be presented in vertical format for people to consume on their phones. "Maybe in the future they can make a movie move in the vertical style, and for two hours you can watch the movie on your phone vertical."

Lucas Millions Dutra, a 23-year-old TikTok filmmaker who wrote and co-created one of the films that won TikTok's short-form filmmaking award, agreed. "People think they have to go to widescreen formats for long-form content," he said. "But I think there's power in short-form [vertical] content that we've obviously seen. I think TikTok is going to inspire more filmmakers to feel like they can start doing short form."

Several film-related trends have gone viral on TikTok in recent months, most notably one where users create short films in the style of director Wes Anderson. On Tuesday, the Associated Press asked Anderson if he was aware of the trend and if he'd watched any of the videos from the young filmmakers mimicking his style.

"I haven't seen it," he said. "I've never seen any TikTok, actually."

FREE FOR ALL

The good kind of rent-seeking

Thanks for the May 14 Business article "A TikToker exposes how much people pay for rent. Viewers can't get enough." I kept looking for something about Washington rents in the article, to no avail. Please provide us with more information on average local rents. After all, the second word in the name of the newspaper is "Washington."

Susan Hoechstetter, *Washington*

When we failed to solve insolvency

The May 8 editorial "Move the debt limit deadline" asserted that a default in payments on the national debt would be "the first . . . in U.S. history."

Late in the War of 1812, the treasury could not raise sufficient funds to pay interest that had come due. As Henry Adams recounted in his "History of the United States During the Administrations of James Madison," a "formal stoppage of payment in interest on the debt was announced, November 9, [1814,] by an official letter from the secretary, notifying holders of government securities in Boston that the Treasury could not meet its obligations. . . . After that date the Treasury made no further pretence of solvency."

In 1814, the treasury secretary said that "nobody was disposed to lend" money to the United States. Today, the United States can readily find lenders. To find wisdom might be harder.

Daniel Koffsky, *Fairfax*

Don't become comfortably numb

I was saddened to learn of another mass shooting, this one at a suburban mall outside Dallas. But I was even more saddened to find The Post's eight-paragraph article on Page A23 ["At least 8 killed and 7 wounded after gunman opens fire at mall in Texas," May 7]. Does The Post think readers have become so inured to these shootings, they no longer merit prominent coverage? I hope that's wrong. If it's right, America is really in trouble.

David Boyce, *Arnold*

A fate no one could deserve

I appreciated Thankful Vanderstar's May 6 letter, "No dignity in the Confederacy," recognizing Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee for who he was: a leader who fought to preserve the despicable practice of slavery.

However, to make her point about rewriting history, Vanderstar referred to Adolf Hitler as "an evil tyrant who . . . murdered millions of innocent Jews and others in the service of his warped notions of racial purity." This phrase stunned me. Why refer to the "innocent" Jews whom Hitler murdered? Were there guilty Jews who deserved to die?

Miriam Bloom, *Silver Spring*

BEN MCKEOWN/AP

George Mason University's Aly Rayle pitches May 19 in Durham, N.C.

Shutting out a champion team

As a longtime Post reader, I often complain about the lack of coverage given to George Mason University basketball. I agree there are a lot of good basketball teams in the area, but GMU gets one line in a basketball digest covering games across the country.

On May 13, the GMU women's softball team won the Atlantic 10 championship for the first time in their 45-year history and there was not even a word in The Post. And they won it with the help of a local player of the year, Aly Rayle, pitching.

There are sports fans who care about something other than the Commanders or the University of Maryland or private school sports.

GMU is the largest public university in Virginia and deserves some coverage.

Sandy Baney, *Fairfax Station*

Weed out these references

Regarding the May 11 special section article "Does weed help with anxiety?":

If The Post were writing a piece about the effects of alcohol, would it include whether teens get hangovers? Of course not. It's not legal for anyone under the age of 21 to drink.

Alas, this is the second article The Post has published recently that talks about teenagers who consume cannabis illegally. They don't belong in the conversation.

Sarah O'Leary, *Ann Arbor, Mich.*

Putting the 'men' in 'menopause'

"A useful handbook for navigating menopause," Meredith Maran's May 9 Style review of Jancee Dunn's book "Hot and Bothered: What No One Tells You About Menopause and How to Feel Like Yourself Again," struck a nerve in an unlikely person: me — a male who knows more than I wanted to know of this universal condition of women.

I was diagnosed with breast cancer (yes, it's rare in men, but it does happen) in 2011. Five years after surgery, it returned, then was treated with radiation followed by potent hormone suppressors that block the production of testosterone and estrogen. So now I endure severe hot flashes (and get no sympathy at all from my wife and most of my women friends) and profound fatigue.

So, yes, this man is both sympathetic and empathetic with women of a certain age who endure the condition universal to their gender.

Jim Kellett, *Harrisonburg, Va.*

Post, traumatic

The May 13 front-page article "Ariz. official targeted by election deniers struggling with PTSD" struck me as odd. I know that deniers are struggling with something, perhaps reality, but I did not know that they were struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Perhaps the reader might have been better served by the headline "Arizona official struggling with PTSD targeted by election deniers."

Gloria Seelig, *Bethesda*

ISHAN GOEL

Influencer Caryn Marjorie

Alone again (unnaturally)

I'm not sure whether Caryn Marjorie's manager, Ishan Goel, intended it, but his photograph of Marjorie sitting in a sterile, unpeopled setting perfectly reflected her quote "They think that [my AI clone is] the end of humanity" ["For $1 a minute, this AI clone will be your girlfriend," news, May 15].

For just $1 per minute, you, too, can sit in your room all alone and communicate with or even pursue a romantic relationship with a machine-created nonhuman. To take the irony of the photograph even further, how many eyes might be peering into your room through the glass screen of your computer? The photo (along with the article) is a chilling reminder that not all that is new is necessarily good.

Barbara Coughlan, *Annapolis*

Hamas's ministry of untruth

The May 10 news article "3 Islamic Jihad leaders among 15 reported killed in Israeli strikes on Gaza" repeated casualty claims made by "Palestinian health officials" yet failed to provide readers with important context and details.

As the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting and Analysis and others have documented, the "Palestinian Health Ministry" is an arm of Hamas, the U.S.-designated terrorist group that rules the Gaza Strip. It reports to Hamas and is funded by the group, whose leaders call for the destruction of the Jewish state.

Hamas has a long history of encouraging civilian casualties by using human shields. It has even hidden weapons in schools, according to a 2015 United Nations investigation and, as recently as the 2021 conflict, employed ambulances as "transport vehicles" and hospitals as "command centers."

Along with Islamic Jihad, another Iranian proxy based in Gaza, Hamas routinely fires missiles at Israel from behind the cover of civilians — a double war crime.

In a 2018 interview, Hamas official Mahmoud al-Zahar admitted to Al Jazeera that the group believed in "deceiving the public" for propaganda purposes.

Trusting a Hamas-run "ministry" to provide reliable casualty counts is like trusting a fox to guard a henhouse.

Sean Durns, *Washington*

The writer is a senior research analyst for the Washington office of the Boston-based Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting and Analysis.

The (in)visible spectrum

The May 15 Style article about the autism portrayal in "The Good Doctor" was about high-functioning people with autism, discussing how they and only they are portrayed [" 'The Good Doctor' memes go viral, reigniting debate about autism portrayal"]. There was not one word about the reality for those many people with profound or serious autism. One study found that almost 30 percent of recently diagnosed children had profound autism. They are simply being erased, even though they have much more serious needs than how they are portrayed in a TV series.

There's a saying in the autism community that when you meet one person with autism, you've met one person with autism. The autism spectrum is so huge that it covers both a medical school graduate with minor social problems and someone the same age who is not toilet-trained, cannot speak and is incapable of social interactions. We keep hearing from those who can speak, something that has been labeled "partial representation" because one subset of a population claims to speak for the entire group. It could also be labeled "ableism," because only those who can speak or fill out surveys are heard from. The others cannot speak, and their caregivers are no longer even being consulted. Their needs are serious, but the push by the highest-functioning to regard autism as *always* merely a "difference" erases them and their many challenges.

As a result, autism is being publicly defined only in terms of the needs of those least impacted. Those more seriously impacted, those with far more serious needs, have no voice and rarely if ever appear on TV. But they are just as human and just as deserving of concern. They should not be rendered invisible because acknowledging that they exist makes some people uncomfortable.

Substantial blame for all of this lies with the medical community, which continues to use "autism" as an umbrella term for a huge range of behaviors and afflictions that might have dozens of causes. Medicine should do its job and come up with separate, meaningful terms for different conditions. Then the high-functioning wouldn't have to worry about being thought of in the same light as those profoundly impacted, and those in greatest need could be seen.

John G. Hemry, *Owings*

ELLIS ROSEN/THE WASHINGTON POST

The May 15 editorial cartoon

Monumentally confusing

I had to think about Ellis Rosen's May 15 editorial cartoon for a minute, then I understood. We're all thinking about when we can relax a bit. We're all due for a collective deep breath.

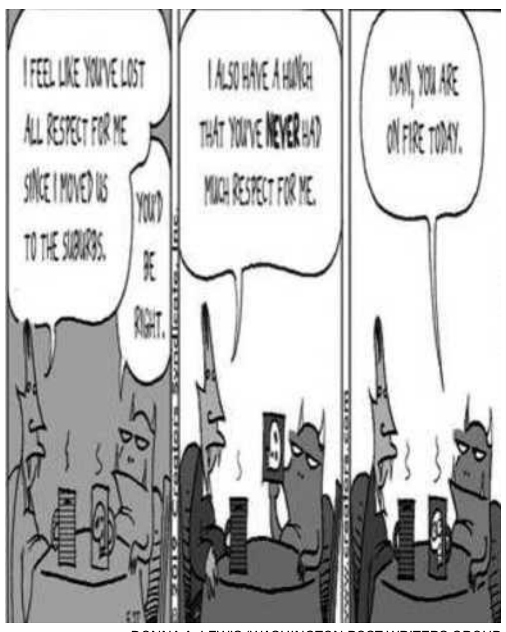
Randy Bograd, *Gaithersburg*

An enviable envoy

I very much enjoyed the May 15 Style article on Rahm Emanuel's service as U.S. ambassador to Japan, "From Rahmbo to Rahm-bassador." I found it surprising, however, that there was no mention of Mike Mansfield's 11-year tenure in that position, from 1977 to 1988.

Mansfield set the mold for subsequent ambassadors, such as Caroline Kennedy, Walter Mondale and Howard Baker, who were mentioned. If there was a "political giant" among them, it was certainly Mansfield.

John W. Outland, *Henrico, Va.*



DONNA A. LEWIS/WASHINGTON POST WRITERS GROUP

"Reply All Lite" as depicted May 15

We got it to fit — but it wasn't fit to print

"Reply All Lite" is usually condensed from the "Reply All" comic strip to a single panel. "Reply All Lite" generally isn't drawn but assembled from stock bits on a computer. And its punchlines are usually vapid.

But the May 15 version was something else — although exactly what I'm not sure.

It appears to have been actually drawn, with word balloons, like a real strip. But it's hard to tell because its three panels have been squeezed into one, and the extreme distortion makes both the "art" and the words almost impossible to make out, even with a magnifying glass.

What was the point? Incomprehensibility? That has been a keynote of "Reply All Lite" all along. But the utter pointlessness of this one trumps all previous ones. It's an insult to readers.

Ted White, *Falls Church*

Cleopatra talked like an Egyptian, but she wasn't Black

Pharaoh Cleopatra VII, a Greek woman of the Ptolemy line, and the last pharaoh to read and speak the language of ancient Egypt, was not Black.

The May 15 Style article "Was Cleopatra Black? We're asking the wrong question." quoted a definitive statement on this subject by Zahi Hawass but in the rest of the article ignored what he said.

Hawass, whom I had the honor of meeting at his archaeological dig in the West Valley of Luxor, Egypt, is perhaps the foremost world expert on ancient Egypt and a formidable archaeologist who has spent much of his life excavating various sites in Egypt. Hawass was the longtime head of the Supreme Council of Antiquities. If you're going to trust anyone on the subject of Cleopatra VII, trust Hawass.

I'm a member of the American Research Center in Egypt (an organization that includes many of the greatest living scholars on ancient Egypt) and an amateur Egyptologist who has traveled all over Egypt. Among other places, I've visited the Temple of Hathor at the Dendera Temple Complex. This temple contains the most well-known bas-relief images of Cleopatra VII. In precisely none of these images — or any other reliefs or statues of Cleopatra VII anywhere — is she depicted as Black. Nor are there images of other Ptolemaic pharaohs who preceded her showing them as Black. The ancient Egyptians knew how to depict Black people, including Nubian pharaohs and Nubian captives.

NETFLIX

Adele James in "Queen Cleopatra"

Where is the evidence that pharaohs were prejudiced against Black people purely because they were Black? Cleopatra VII could have depicted herself as Black if she chose to. There is simply no historical basis for asserting that she was Black but chose to represent herself as "European" because she was prejudiced against Black people.

Also, Cleopatra was not representing herself in temple reliefs and statuary as "Egyptian," in the sense of being genetically related to the people of ancient Egypt. She was representing herself as pharaoh, just as did her Ptolemaic forebears.

Current and former Egyptian government officials are quite correct that "Queen Cleopatra" cannot legitimately claim to be a documentary, because Cleopatra VII was not Black. As for "historians" who insist that "sources" on Cleopatra VII are "subject to bias," that is a statement without a foundation.

Finally, Shelley Haley, whose credentials on ancient Egypt aren't in the same universe as Hawass's, would be well-advised to make her assertions about Cleopatra VII at the American Research Center in Egypt's next national convention and see what the real experts have to say on the subject.

Laurel Neff, *Chevy Chase*

To question, or not to question? There is no question.

Regarding the May 13 Free for All letter "Lord, Lord, how this world is given to lying":

As an academic, I have always been perplexed that questioning, which is part of what academics are supposed to do, is met with unexplainable vitriol when it comes to Shakespeare. It's like questioning Homer's authorship back in the day — an unthinkable heresy.

Unlike with the best-known writers of today, we have no paper trail of any kind for Shakespeare except for hundreds of business records. It is assumed he went to the Stratford elementary school, but those records were lost or burned. Unlike for other prominent writers, there are no records that he attended university. His will mentions no books, not even a family Bible, no manuscripts, no theater shares. At least one of his daughters was illiterate. His physician son-in-law noted in his diary that he treated a writer but failed to mention his father-in-law was a writer. Shakespeare's plays are predominantly about royal lineage, the court and courtiers, with everyday folk serving as comic relief. "Hamlet" has a scene with a nobleman rewriting a play and teaching the actors how to perform it.

What's wrong with asking questions when the pieces don't fit? Why all this apoplectic name-calling? Could it be that reputations are at stake? The saddest part of this saga is that because of the limitations of what Shakespeare of Stratford could have known, until recently "traditional" scholars could not address the complexities of the plays and the sonnets. Now they forge ahead, ignoring what Shakespeare could or could not have known. This way, nobody's reputation is at stake.

If there were a satisfactory answer to this question about "the soul of the age," the question would go away. It is highly ironic that traditional English academics have found themselves defending the amazing knowledge revealed in the plays, ignoring studies that cast doubt — such as those of French academics. And as far as the new stylometric studies that "prove" Shakespeare works were written by a group of writers, the ignored French Renaissance academic Abel Lefranc, a member of the Académie Française, said that it is quite possible that Shakespeare wrote the plays and that over the years they were touched up by other writers for later presentations — a premise that makes group authorship impossible to prove.

Elizabeth Winkler is a highly respected journalist. She examines the Shakespeare authorship question as any good journalist would: What is the problem? What is the history? Who are the principal players, and what do they have to say? She provides all the information, and she lets readers come to their own conclusions. "Shakespeare Was a Woman and Other Heresies: How Doubting the Bard Became the Biggest Taboo in Literature" is fun to read — like a good detective story, because journalists are detectives.

In my experience, people resort to name-calling when that is the last line of defense.

Elisabeth Waugaman, *Rockville*

The Washington Post

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

EDITORIALS

DAYNA SMITH/THE WASHINGTON POST

The marquee of the Uptown Theater in 2001.

Deserving an encore

D.C.'s grand movie palace — the Uptown Theater — needs a Hollywood ending.

THE DISTRICT last year completed a report on the historic value of the Uptown Theater in Cleveland Park, calling the famous local institution "an excellent example of an Art Deco motion-picture palace with high historic integrity and remarkable longevity."

Just not quite remarkable enough for cinéastes in and around Washington. The Uptown closed in March 2020, when AMC Theatres, the world's largest movie chain, pulled out after a run of Pixar's "Onward." AMC provided no explanation for the move, though trends in the exhibitor industry didn't leave too much to the imagination: Chains had long since moved to a multiplex model, the better to provide more options for moviegoers and, thus, fill more seats. The Uptown is a single-screen marvel that has captivated generations of Washingtonians.

"It would be wonderful if someone could make that theater viable financially," said Donetta George, chair of the board of the Avalon Theatre Project, the group that keeps afloat its namesake two-screen movie house just up Connecticut Avenue from the Uptown.

Any change to the beloved Uptown, which was named a historic landmark last year, is bound to displease the faithful. As AMC's withdrawal signaled, the theater's model had sustainability problems. Everyone old enough remembers the glory days of the Uptown — the 1968 premiere of "2001: A Space Odyssey," the 1993 premiere of "Jurassic Park," its "Star Wars" coup of May 1977 (dubbed by The Post as "The Movie That Ate Cleveland Park") and other high-profile moments. Less salient in all the nostalgia, however, is the quotidian reality of sparse audiences dwarfed by an outsize backdrop. In a 2018 oral history of the Uptown in the Washington City Paper, journalist Chris Klimek recalled going to a 10:30 p.m. screening of "Ant-Man and the Wasp," then the top movie in the country. "I counted 11 people in the audience, about the same number I remembered counting when I'd bought a ticket for the 40th anniversary re-release of 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind.'"

More than three years into the idleness of the Uptown, what does a successful outcome look like for this cultural treasure? And what's going on with it, anyway?

"I hate to see any movie theater close," Ted Pedas told The Post's Paul Schwartzman after AMC Theatres pulled out. "It's in your blood. I love that theater." Pedas and his brother, Jim Pedas, were the building's owners but passed "much of their interest" to Ted Pedas's children.

To save the Uptown, the Pedas family spent many of the covid lockdown months considering its transformation at a time when movie theater operators weren't looking to sign leases. "There was some exploration during the pandemic — what would it take to make it into a multi-screen" complex, said commercial real estate broker Bill Miller, who represents the Pedas family concern.

The answer to that question was: Way too much money. "It just — it wouldn't pencil out," said Miller.

Opened by Warner Bros. in 1936, the Uptown's Depression-era architecture features descending floors, a cavern of open space and design anomalies delightful for hipster movie buffs — though anathema for anyone seeking to retrofit the place for a multiplex or other uses. The mezzanine, for instance, is a hodgepodge of slopes and step-ups that would complicate any attempt to ensure ADA compliance under a new occupant. Monthly rent for the building is around $30,000. In attempting to renovate the more than 18,000-square-foot structure, "you can get to $10 million in a second," said Mr. Miller.

Facing the infeasibility of a multiplex renovation, the building's owners last fall listed the property for lease. At least one of the resulting proposals laid out a plan to preserve the Uptown's character. Emily Lenzner, who grew up in the neighborhood, drafted a blueprint for the Uptown Center for Arts & Film — a movie theater surrounded by a restaurant, entertainment space, a smaller theater space, a catering kitchen and other amenities, as DCist reported.

Ms. Lenzner's solution is akin to what concerned citizens cooked up for the Avalon, which closed in 2001. They created a nonprofit organization to fund operations via donations and revenue from programming and other sources.

The Uptown's owners considered Ms. Lenzner's plan but informed her that it didn't make the final cut. According to an email sent by Ms. Lenzner to her supporters and reported by PoPville in March, the owners indicated that they'd signed a "letter of intent with an 'arts/theater group' that they believe 'will change the course of the Uptown and the neighborhood.' " Mr. Miller won't disclose details of what's to come but said that one of the uses for the space is in the "projected arts realm" and "something that you can't do on your big-screen TV at your home." He's hoping that a deal will be announced this summer.

It's unclear what group is poised to serve as the next custodian of the Uptown. What is clear is that in a town that hosts some of the country's foremost cultural centers and associations — such as the Smithsonian, the Library of Congress, the Motion Picture Association, as well as deep-pocketed benefactors who might enjoy a legacy tied to something as prestigious as the Uptown — there's little excuse for failure.

A win for the Uptown at this point is any sort of arts venue that attracts people. Many people, preferably: Cleveland Park, after all, has distinguished itself for vibrancy-killing NIMBY actions that have reduced it to also-ran status among D.C. neighborhoods. It could use some bustle.

Give more D.C. residents a voice

Ranked-choice voting has worked well — and can in the District, too.

A GROUP of good government reformers has filed initial paperwork with the D.C. Board of Elections to put a referendum on the ballot next year that would open up primaries to independent voters and institute ranked-choice voting. These moves would make local government more responsive to the majority of citizens.

Only 10 states have a system as closed as the federal city. More than 80,000 voters in the District, of about 524,000 total, are registered as unaffiliated with either party. Because the city is so blue, the winner of the November general election in most contests is decided in the Democratic primary in June. Independent voters are functionally disenfranchised by not being allowed to participate in the primary that chooses their mayor, for example — a double insult because they already lack congressional representation.

Another common problem in D.C. elections is officials winning with a minority of votes. Ranked-choice balloting would ensure the winner has broad support. If no one gets a majority in the first round, the lowest-performing candidate gets dropped and the second choices of their supporters get tabulated. The process continues until someone cracks 50 percent. This has worked well — from the New York City mayoral race in 2021 to Alaska's congressional contests last year.

In neighboring Virginia, Arlington County is experimenting with ranked-choice voting for two open county supervisor seats in the June 20 Democratic primary. With early voting underway, the process is going smoothly. In Maryland, Takoma Park has used ranked-choice voting since 2007. This Editorial Board supports legislation to allow Montgomery County to do the same.

Taking this initiative directly to the people of D.C. became necessary after a few entrenched incumbents on the council, reflecting a crusty Democratic Party establishment trying to protect its power, deep-sixed a ranked-choice voting proposal by council member Christina Henderson (I-At Large). Her bill received a hearing in 2021 after a majority of members signed on as co-sponsors but never got a vote. (Ms. Henderson won her own seat in 2020 with 15 percent of the vote in a 23-way race for two spots on the council.)

The Board of Elections needs to certify the draft referendum. From there, organizers in favor would have to collect signatures of support from 5 percent of registered voters. If passed next November, it would go into effect in 2026.

One of the loudest arguments against ranked choice has been that it's too complicated and confusing for racial minorities, low-income residents and seniors to understand. This insults the intelligence of voters. It's also wrong: D.C. Public Schools has parents rank preferences in a school placement lottery, and the D.C. Housing Authority uses ranked preferences for public housing assignments.

Paradoxically, Democrats opposing this initiative find themselves in common cause with right-wing figures such as former president Donald Trump, Sarah Palin and Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, who signed a bill last year to ban ranked-choice voting in his state.

Ranked-choice voting helps temper extremism and discourages mudslinging. It's no coincidence the only congressional Republicans who survived the midterms after voting to impeach Mr. Trump — Washington Rep. Dan Newhouse, California Rep. David G. Valadao and Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski — won in elections where it was used.

D.C. deserves a truly democratic government that represents the will of its majority.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

letters@washpost.com

About Virginia's liquor sales

Regarding the May 23 Metro article "Flaw in whiskey lottery wildly skews results":

Rather than auction off very expensive, rare whiskeys to the highest bidder, thereby maximizing revenue for the state, the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority decides to hold a lottery to give customers an equal chance of winning. The result? The Virginia ABC is unable to successfully manage a, um, lottery? And then it is so bad at math that it doesn't recognize outcomes that are "wildly" skewed until participants complain?

Remind me why liquor sales are run by the government in Virginia rather than the private sector.

Kevin Stephenson, *McLean*

Age should not be a factor

Kathleen Parker got it wrong in her May 21 op-ed, "America's gerontocracy is getting too old." There are about 56 million Americans age 65 or older, and they're not all slurping apple sauce from straws and "teetering on the brink of non compos mentis." And, yes, they too deserve representatives in a functional democracy.

As a 19-year-old college student, I support older professionals in any field, including politics, who defy ageism by refusing to step aside — as long as they can fulfill their duties. Age should be no disqualifier when considering an individual's ability. Whether someone can carry out their job must be judged solely on a person-to-person basis. Excluding an entire demographic is wrong, even if that demographic represents no particular sex, race, class or religion.

Whether it's criticizing President Biden for his stutter (more than 3 million Americans stutter) or Martha Stewart for her glamour, older adults battle rampant ageism, especially in the job market. Let's face it: We all grow old — at least those of us who are lucky enough. If we're just going to dismiss the notion that wisdom comes with experience, then Ms. Parker should step down and hand her job over to one of the many fledgling young columnists out there who would be thrilled to relieve her of her position, me among them.

Gabriel Levin,
Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif.

ESG investing works

The Republican-led House Oversight Committee held a hearing this month on environmental, social and governance (ESG) practices as the result of a letter sent from 21 state attorneys general to top asset managers that warned them against using ESG considerations in their investment decisions. It's the latest GOP attack on responsible investing and, according to Dana Milbank's May 14 Sunday Opinion column, "The party of capitalism comes for the free market," the free market.

Research shows that returns on socially responsible investments are on par or better than returns on investments not based on ESG principles, especially over the long term.

Legislation in Texas banning cities from contracting with banks with ESG policies cost investors an extra $303 million to $532 million in higher municipal bond interest rates. Taxpayers in Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma and West Virginia could have owed up to $708 million in additional interest charges on municipal bonds because of anti-ESG laws and bills.

ESG investing seeks out information about risk and opportunity that is not necessarily reflected on a company's balance sheet. Individual, institutional and public asset managers should be free to consider all information when making critical investment decisions. It is not the role of federal or state government to tell asset managers how to manage investments for their clients.

The extremist attorneys general opposing the freedom to invest responsibly — and the fossil fuel, firearm and mining industries supporting them — should know: This is how the free market works.

The most important thing we can do in the face of partisan attacks on ESG is to keep supporting socially responsible investing.

Cathy Cowan Becker, *Washington*
The writer is the responsible finance campaign director at Green America.

Let Haitians decide

The May 19 editorial "The West fiddles as Haiti unravels" offered a sober assessment of a country descending into chaos "in the absence of a functioning government" and called for international intervention.

The editorial mentioned a "broad coalition of civil groups and political parties in Haiti" (otherwise known as the Montana Accord, named after a hotel in Haiti where the group formed) as a positive development, but immediately dismissed it as unable to lead Haiti through a transitional process to elections, and therefore away from the abyss. In this regard, the editorial woefully underestimated the ability of that civil society/political coalition, aligned with Haiti's maligned and abused ordinary citizens, to address and reverse the current state's acknowledged failure.

In the place of calling for a military intervention that will prop up that failed, dysfunctional state, couldn't the editorial, in its criticism of the Biden administration's own failure in Haiti, have recommended something other than boots on the ground? How about calling for sanctions with teeth against those fueling Haiti's violence, active support from the Biden administration for the aforementioned coalition and for the police reforms it proposes, and the aggressive application of U.S. criminal codes against American and Haitian citizens who are breaking them in their pursuit of power, wealth and privilege in Haiti?

Yes, the West is fiddling, but so is The Post.

Robert Maguire, *Cheverly*
The writer is a former director of the Haiti program at George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs and a former U.S. government official with the Inter-American Foundation and the State Department.

Though I laud the May 19 editorial for seeking a path forward for Haiti, I believe military intervention would be hazardous and shortsighted.

As donor governments consider the same failed strategies, namely jamming solutions and U.S.-compliant leaders down the throats of the Haitian populace, I'm struck by the arrogance. Donors cannot simply recycle bad strategy to fix today's widespread crises, at least if success is the aim.

With or without military intervention, the international community has proved itself incapable of creating stability in Haiti, and Haiti's "government" is not merely ineffectual; it has failed the Haitian people completely, particularly since the Biden administration anointed Ariel Henry as de facto prime minister in July 2021. Not long after, civil society and opposition political parties reached a historic political accord without Mr. Henry, with a process to form a transitional government, priorities, and a plan to restore security and create adequate conditions for elections. The international community largely dismissed this agreement and continues to push for rushed elections, despite a minuscule likelihood that the results of Henry-led elections will be acceptable to Haitians.

Even as Western donor nations "promote" a broad, political consensus, they prevent such harmony by insisting that their chosen, illegitimate designee as head of state be included in any agreement. To my Haitian friends and me, Mr. Henry is anything but a Haitian-led solution, as he has done nothing to help the people or pursue justice for the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse. I remain confident that, with a removal of international support for this failed, puppet prime minister, the Haitian people would reach a sociopolitical agreement and create a far more trustworthy partner, for both the populace and the international community. Building a solid Haitian political foundation representing the citizenry would greatly boost the probability of success of any international security intervention, elections and development partnerships.

Dan Foote, *Buffalo*
The writer, a retired ambassador, is a former U.S. special envoy for Haiti.

The May 19 editorial on Haiti was very right to decry the negligence of Haiti by the Biden administration. Its diplomacy has been almost laughable. First a dalliance with a "coalition of the willing," which never formed. Then an attempt to slough off the job to Canada. The United States has sent soldiers to Haiti three times in the contemporary era: in 1994, 2004 and 2010.

At this point, it either has to send them again or get the U.N. Security Council to send its own. There, Russia and China have approved five past missions to Haiti over the decades but, never having received anything from us for doing that, are now balking at a new one. We would actually have to negotiate with them, something that this administration disdains doing.

James Morrell, *Washington*
The writer is director of the Haiti Democracy Project.

Protecting creators from AI

Regarding the May 19 Politics & the Nation article "High court counters Warhol Foundation claim of fair use":

The Supreme Court decision regarding Andy Warhol and use of previous works might actually become an important protection for creative works against wrongful use by artificial intelligence. Though the decision is limiting for creative artists, it's also going to limit AI use, so the decision could also protect creative works.

It's a very interesting time for the arts for sure. Voice-over artists, too, might also be affected greatly by this decision, but, again, protection against wrongful AI use might need to be harnessed this way. Freedom of expression should include a guarantee of protections against improper use with or without permission, commercial or otherwise.

Martha England, *Fullerton, Calif.*

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EDITH PRITCHETT

The (very unofficial) guide to the Cannes Film Festival

COLBERT I. KING

This Memorial Day, take a moment to remember service and sacrifice

I don't know where I will find myself on Monday when taps are played at the national Memorial Day program at Arlington National Cemetery. But count on this: I won't be partying it up at a backyard barbecue bash or dashing from store to store in a shopping mall catching doorbuster sales.

I also can't say whether I will devote an hour or minutes to remembering the fallen. But I know with certainty that some time will be spent giving thanks for the men and women who shed their blood and sacrificed their lives in service to the United States. They were brothers and sisters in a military uniform that I proudly shared as a commissioned officer in the Army.

At his dedication of the battlefield cemetery at Gettysburg in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln spoke of the sacrifice of the fallen troops as having given "the last full measure of devotion" to the nation. Generations have given their all. A few of them were college classmates and fellow ROTC graduates who returned home from Vietnam in flag-draped coffins. There will be no picnics for any of them. They won't be joining any trips to the mall. Or family get-togethers. They, and the more than 65,000 U.S. service members who were killed in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan, will never know what it's like to get a day off the job, to gas up the car and hit the road.

And, regrettably, many of them will be simply forgotten. But we can't let it go with that.

What then am I asking? Take a pass on holiday sales? Close the grill? Spend Monday wearing sackcloth and ashes as an outward, ostentatious sign of mourning? Perish those thoughts. But to reduce Memorial Day to just a grand occasion to kick off the summer is disrespectful of those who gave all they had.

Besides, Memorial Day has a special resonance for this D.C. native. We still don't have what we have rightly earned as citizens: full and equal representation in Congress or full authority to govern ourselves. Yet the service and sacrifice of D.C. residents in the protection of the country, which should be a source of national tribute, is not even afforded an afterthought.

Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.), however, has detailed the costs borne by the District in a resolution introduced in advance of Memorial Day recognizing D.C.'s service members and veterans.

Most Americans, I dare say, do not know the facts in Norton's resolution:

- 635 D.C. residents were casualties of World War I, a figure greater than that observed by three states during that war.
- The casualty figure of 3,575 D.C. residents lost in World War II was greater than that sustained by four states.
- The 547 D.C. residents who were Korean War casualties were greater than that observed by eight different states.
- 243 D.C. residents were casualties of the Vietnam War, a casualty figure greater than that observed by 10 states.

We D.C. residents have more than paid our dues, but we have done so, as Norton says, "without the equal protections of American democracy."

So yes, I'm going to carve out a stretch of time on Monday to honor the men and women who have paid the ultimate price. But mockers of Memorial Day observances, let not your hearts be troubled. I am a realist. Memorial Day has been successfully, and probably irrevocably, appropriated by many for pleasure and profit. So, all I'm asking is that you take a moment — one moment out of the day to remember — to commemorate the service and sacrifice. Those of us in the autumn of our years will appreciate that simple act of yours. So too will the families and friends of the fallen.

MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

Soldiers prepare to plant flags for Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery in 2017.

Congress should allow Reagan National to pilot itself

BY GEORGE ALLEN

One of my last actions as Virginia governor more than 25 years ago was supporting the charge to add Ronald Reagan to the official name of Washington National Airport. I did so for one salient, historical, principled reason: I wanted people to remember every time they used the airport that President Ronald Reagan had been a champion for state and local prerogatives rather than intrusive federal overreach.

Indeed, in 1987, the Reagan administration finally and wisely transferred federal control of Dulles International and National airports to the new Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. This salutary transfer of management to a regional board with members from Virginia, Maryland and D.C. has proved beneficial, especially with the use of construction bonds to finance improvements at National Airport. If the federal government bureaucracies had remained in control, it is doubtful that the architecturally beautiful terminal at National would have been constructed in the 1990s. This appropriate use of airport revenue by a local entity to finance improvements is normal for airport operations throughout our country.

Yet, somehow the airport continues to fight off persistent intrusions by some members of Congress who forget what Reagan taught us as they try to micromanage the airport by adding flights and changing what's known as the perimeter rule.

National and Dulles airports operate in tandem as a single entity to provide holistic service to passengers from around the world who are traveling to and through the D.C. metro area. Carefully crafted federal law stipulates that Reagan National operate with strict rules limiting the number of flights (slots, in airport lingo) and the distance that nonstop flights can travel (currently 1,250 miles — the perimeter rule), with few exceptions. These rules were designed by Congress and public servants for these two airports to support economic development and regional access to Washington while easing airport congestion and promoting safety. They also acknowledge a very basic fact about National: Squeezed between the Potomac River and Arlington, the airport is constrained by geography. Without these rules, the airport would have even worse noise, congestion and delays.

Changes in the slot and perimeter rules would have a deleterious effect on the jobs and economic development generated by our local airports and the regional airports that connect them to other destinations. A real consequence could be fewer flights to Knoxville, Tenn.; Norfolk; Charleston, S.C.; Charleston, W.Va.; and other places within 1,250 miles to make room for cross-country flights to the Pacific time zone.

In my 20 years serving Virginians as governor, in the Senate and the House, and as a delegate, I worked to protect the autonomy of the airport authority. I feel strongly that local authorities should, whenever possible, exercise local control, especially when dealing with operational matters that would have a significant effect on the community. Further, federal law expressly delegates operational control of both airports to the authority, which has the local knowledge and aviation industry expertise to run two major airports.

The airport authority does not support these latest proposed changes, and neither do I.

The reason for supporting local control over federal overreach, particularly when operating airports, is simple: Local airport authorities have the best understanding of the needs of their communities and economies. They are closer to the people, and they have the expertise to make the right decisions far from the politics of Washington meddlers.

Virginia lawmakers, including me, advocated for investments in and around Dulles, the significantly larger airport, which is designed to accommodate more passengers, more cars and more traffic as well as freight/cargo and larger planes equipped for longer-haul domestic and international flights. Billions of dollars in local, state and federal funds and commercial zoning policies have supported economic growth in Northern Virginia, resulting in thousands of jobs at airlines, vendors and corporate headquarters, all benefiting residents who live in the region. The new Silver Line extension makes travel to and from Dulles easier than ever. Dulles and National airports are key assets for the entire area and beyond.

Though these basic facts haven't changed in the past few decades, federal legislators disappointingly continue to suspiciously prioritize schedules that would benefit them over sound policy and local control by experts of our nation's airports.

Any intervention by Congress in local airport management is an overstep. As a senator 20 years ago, I threatened a filibuster and stopped efforts by my Republican colleagues who were pushing for additional slots at National. I feel as strongly today about the issue as I did then, when I told them that they had no business intruding into our airports' operations — nor theirs in Phoenix, Las Vegas, San Francisco, Dallas or anywhere else.

I sincerely hope that my friends in Congress, whether they fly home from Reagan National or Dulles International, will remember what Reagan taught us about trusting local control and the wisdom of our local authorities. I urge them to let us run our own affairs, leaving the slot and perimeter rules intact.

The writer, a Republican, was governor of Virginia from 1994 to 1998, a U.S. senator from 2001 to 2007, a member of the U.S. House from 1991 to 1993 and a member of the Virginia House of Delegates from 1983 to 1991. He is a Reagan Ranch presidential scholar for the Young America's Foundation.

The Washington Post | LIVE

Coming Up This Week

TUES. MAY 30 AT 11:00 A.M.

EXPLAINING AMERICA

Mark Zandi, Chief Economist, Moody's Analytics

Zandi offers a guide to understanding the U.S. debt ceiling and the potential global economic fallout should America default.

TUES. MAY 30 AT 1:00 P.M.

RACE IN AMERICA: GIVING VOICE

Atsuko Okatsuka, Comedian

Okatsuka talks about her upcoming tour, finding her voice as a comedian and the trailblazers who inspired her.

TUES. MAY 30 AT 3:00 P.M.

PRESENTING SPONSOR ECOLAB WATER FOR CLIMATE

THIS IS CLIMATE: BUSINESS & SUSTAINABILITY

Ryan Panchadsaram, Adviser, Kleiner Perkins
Mekala Krishnan, Partner, McKinsey Global Institute
Tensie Whelan, Clinical Professor of Business & Society and Director, Center for Sustainable Business, New York University
Content from ***Ecolab: Calvin Emanuel***, Vice President & General Manager, Sustainable Growth Solutions, Ecolab

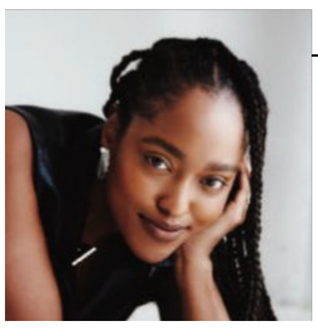
Panchadsaram, Krishnan and Whelan discuss the role of business in the fight against global warming and assess the new ideas to tackle climate change.

THURS. JUNE 1 AT 11:00 A.M.

KEYU JIN

Author, "The New China Playbook" and Professor, London School of Economics

Jin shares her book that argues for a new economic framework for China and challenges popular myths about the country's growth.



THURS. JUNE 1 AT 1:00 P.M.

NEXT: ARSEMA THOMAS

Actor

Thomas discusses her breakout role on "Queen Charlotte," pivoting from a career in public health and the power of representation on screen.

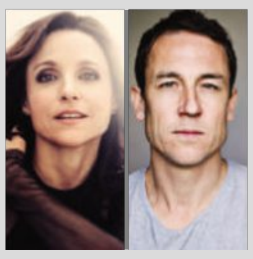
FRI. JUNE 2 AT 9:00 A.M.

FIRST LOOK

The Post's **Jonathan Capehart**, **Christine Emba** and **Jason Willick**

Washington Post Live's "First Look" offers a smart, inside take on the day's politics. Jonathan Capehart hosts a reporter debrief followed by a roundtable discussion with Washington Post columnists.

Catch Up On Recent Programs



Julia Louis-Dreyfus
Actor & Producer
Tobias Menzies
Actor

Joe Lieberman
Founding Chair, No Labels
Pat McCrory
Co-Founder, No Labels

Orna Guralnik
Psychologist & Psychoanalyst,
"Couples Therapy"

Susan E. Rice
White House Domestic
Policy Advisor

Minnesota Attorney General
Keith Ellison
Author, "Break the Wheel"

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The Washington Post

METRO

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023 EZ RE B

8 a.m. 62° | Noon 72° | 4 p.m. 76° | 8 p.m. 70°

High today at approx. 4 p.m. 76°
Precip: 0%
Wind: E 8-16 mph

RELIGION
Meet the activists behind the legislation to put unlicensed chaplains in Texas's public schools. B2

MARYLAND
Reinstatement of Adnan Syed's murder conviction is stayed pending possible state high court review. B3

THE DISTRICT
Officials served notice about leashing laws after a dog attacked a beaver in Rock Creek Park. B4

Excessive force used on media, report says

Park Police faulted in incidents at 2020 D.C. racial justice protest

BY ELLIE SILVERMAN

Two U.S. Park Police officers violated department policy when they used force against two journalists — pushing a videographer's camera and striking a reporter with a baton — during a crackdown on racial justice protesters outside the White House nearly three years ago, the U.S. Interior Department inspector general's office said.

The journalists, who are unnamed in the inspector general's report, were working together in Lafayette Square to cover protests over the police killing of George Floyd for an Australian television network when the officers used force against them ahead of then-President Donald Trump's photo op on June 1, 2020, in front of St. John's Church. Photos in the report published Wednesday match footage and testimony showing police striking Australian journalists Amelia Brace and Timothy Myers.

Eric Feder, an attorney with Davis Wright Tremaine who represents Myers and Brace, said that although a representative from the Interior Department's inspector general's office did not directly tell them the report was about their experience, "the details all match up completely."

"The report is plainly about what happened to them," Feder said. "We are pleased that the inspector general ultimately recognized what was apparent to millions of people watching on live television — that the U.S. Park Police used excessive force against members of the media exercising their constitutional rights to report the news. It's critical that law enforcement respects these important rights, even — indeed, especially — in

SEE PROTEST ON B4

Two Va. men plead guilty in $7.6M covid scheme

BY SALVADOR RIZZO

A Manassas business executive admitted Friday that he and others bilked more than $7.6 million from coronavirus relief programs and that he spent much of the money on home mortgage payments, tuition for his children, cars and cryptocurrency investments.

Bennie Earl Magee, 54, pleaded guilty in Alexandria federal court to wire fraud affecting a financial institution. An associate who described Magee as his mentor, Michael Gilcher, 45, of Bealeton, pleaded guilty Friday to a charge that he conspired to make false statements on loan applications, as well as wire fraud, bank fraud and money laundering.

Magee submitted falsified documents in loan applications that inflated revenue and claimed dozens of nonexistent employees on behalf of 17 businesses. The scam drained millions of dollars from the key coronavirus relief programs established by Congress during the height of the pandemic — nearly $6.8 million from the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and $854,000 from the Covid Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program (EIDL), according to a statement of facts filed in court Friday.

SEE FRAUD ON B4

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ROBINSON CHÁVEZ/THE WASHINGTON POST

In Annapolis, jubilation and a highflying salute

Members of the U.S. Naval Academy Class of 2023 celebrate after their graduation ceremony, where they were sworn into the Navy or the Marine Corps, at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis. The elite Blue Angels, below, performed a flyover, and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin addressed the more than 1,000 midshipmen, telling them: "The lessons of this academy will always steer you true. And when the fog rolls in, let the values that you have learned here be your lighthouse."

Families sue Montgomery schools over LGBT books

Backlash comes after system removed opt-out option from lessons using inclusive material in March

BY NICOLE ASBURY

Three families are suing the Montgomery County school board and superintendent over the school system's updated curriculum that includes books for young students featuring LGBTQ characters. The parents argue that the district's lack of an opt-out option violates their First Amendment rights.

The books are a part of a larger supplemental curriculum announced by the school system in January that adds titles for kindergarten through fifth grade. The school system revised its policies in March and informed parents that they should not expect advance notice of when these books would be used in classrooms and that opting out of the lessons was no longer allowed.

The 47-page complaint, filed Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Maryland, alleges that the school district did not follow state law or its own policies on religious protections when it removed an opt-out provision. Through the complaint, the families also point out that the school system initially allowed opt-outs but reversed that decision.

A spokeswoman for the school system declined to comment on the lawsuit because of the pending litigation.

Conversations in the classroom about gender identity and sexuality have become contentious between school systems and parents across the country. A recent Washington Post analysis found that books about LGBTQ people are fast becoming the main target in a historic wave of schoolbook challenges. Last year, several Maryland parents protested at school board meetings

SEE BOOKS ON B4

ASTRID RIECKEN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Children's books that have been targeted for removal from public schools because of their LGBTQ content are displayed last year at the Pride Town Hall at Walter Johnson High School in Bethesda.

Prison for two Oath Keepers

SENTENCED FOR ROLES ON JAN. 6

Army vets were tried, convicted with Rhodes

BY SPENCER S. HSU

A self-styled militia leader and bar owner from Ohio and a former welder from Florida were sentenced Friday to 8½ years and four years in prison, respectively, for joining Oath Keepers founder Stewart Rhodes in disrupting Congress's confirmation of Joe Biden's 2020 presidential election victory in the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol attack.

Army veterans Jessica Watkins and Kenneth Harrelson were acquitted of seditious conspiracy but convicted on other felony counts in November at trial with Rhodes and his on-the-ground leader, Kelly Meggs. Rhodes and Meggs were convicted of seditious conspiracy and sentenced Thursday. Rhodes received 18 years in prison, the longest for any Jan. 6 defendant. Meggs was sentenced to 12 years.

On Friday, U.S. District Judge Amit P. Mehta told Watkins after a two-hour sentencing hearing: "Nobody would suggest you're Stewart Rhodes; I don't think you're Kelly Meggs. But your role in those events is more than that of just a foot soldier."

He added, "As someone who takes a greater role in a conspiracy, you bear a greater responsibility not just for your conduct but for the conduct of those you bring to it."

Watkins, 40, of Woodstock, Ohio, recruited three other people and was recorded on Jan. 6 on a walkie-talkie-style app saying she was walking with a group of about 30 to 40 people to the Capitol and "sticking together and sticking to the plan," before

SEE OATH KEEPERS ON B3

D.C. official focused on curbing gun violence dies

BY PETER HERMANN, MICHAEL BRICE-SADDLER AND EMILY DAVIES

Linda Harllee Harper, who led two D.C. agencies tasked with reducing gun violence and seeking alternative ways to reduce crime, died Friday morning, the mayor's office announced.

Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D) announced Harllee Harper's death on Twitter, calling her a beloved D.C. government official who "dedicated her career and life to our young people and our community."

The statement did not specify a cause of death. Harper, a lifelong Washingtonian, was 57 years old.

Harllee Harper served as director of the Office of Gun Violence Prevention, created in 2021, and, since February, she also led the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, which oversees violence interrupters who try to quell disputes before they turn deadly. Her death will leave a void in the District's effort to combat gun violence, especially as city leaders seek to develop programs outside of traditional law enforcement.

Homicides remain up in the city over the same time last year, and shootings of youths are also

SEE HARPER ON B3

RELIGION

Activists pressed Texas bill to put chaplains in schools

BY JACK JENKINS

On Wednesday afternoon, Texas state Rep. James Talarico (D) approached the microphone on the House floor with a stack of papers in hand. It was time for the final vote on a bill that would allow public schools in the state to hire their own unlicensed chaplains.

It was largely ceremonial, but Talarico, a vocal critic of the bill, still had a few questions.

Looking down at his notes, he asked Rep. Cole Hefner (R), the chief champion of the House bill, if the head of the National School Chaplain Association had worked on the proposal that has drawn controversy and national attention.

"They provided some input," Hefner offered.

It was an understated acknowledgment of a coalition that shepherded the chaplains bill through the Texas legislature. Whereas two other bills introduced this session that involved religion and public schools — one that dealt with school prayer and another requiring classrooms to hang donated Ten Commandments signs — never made it across the finish line, the chaplains bill was carried by an alliance of right-wing activists, Christian groups and conservative lawmakers who have aided each other's rise while championing forms of Christian nationalism.

Their victory points to the ascendant power of the ideology in red states, where legislators are lining up behind bills involving religion, including opposition to LGBTQ rights, that critics say only reflect a specific Christian vision for society.

The lawmaker most associated with the Texas chaplains bill is Sen. Mayes Middleton (R), a former Texas House member serving his first term in the state Senate in a district that includes Galveston. As head of the Freedom Caucus during his time in the Texas House, Middleton was a vocal supporter of U.S. lawmakers from Texas who attempted to halt the certification of the 2020 presidential election on Jan. 6, 2021.

He has also articulated support for Christian nationalist ideas, such as insisting that the separation of church and state is "not a real doctrine" during debate over the chaplains bill. And in a recent interview with The Washington Post, he declared "there is absolutely no separation of God and government, and that's what these bills are about," referring to the chaplains bill as well as the Ten Commandments bill, which he also authored.

As head of his own oil company, Middleton has been an influential political donor in Texas, including providing a $5,000 donation to Julie Pickren, who successfully ran for the state board of education last year in a district that includes Galveston.

Pickren was a controversial choice: An ardent supporter of Donald Trump, she sparked outcry in March 2021 when it was revealed she was in Washington on Jan. 6 to attend the Trump rally that preceded the attack on the U.S. Capitol. Although Pickren, then a local school board member, did not appear to enter the Capitol, her presence nearby was criticized by area NAACP representatives, as were her false claims that the Capitol attack was led by "antifa" members instead of Trump supporters.

Pickren lost her local school board seat two months later but remained a rising star in the Texas Republican Party. She appeared on an education-focused panel at the Conservative Political Action Conference in 2022 and has also developed connections with the prominent state-level activist group Texas Values, which champions "faith, family and freedom" and played a role in authoring the state's controversial "heartbeat" abortion bill.

During a September 2021 appearance on the Right Side Broadcasting Network, a host asked Pickren about the Texas heartbeat bill. Instead of responding, she simply turned her camera slightly as Jonathan M. Saenz, head of Texas Values, leaned in to speak next to her.

The following year, the political arm of Saenz's group, Texas Values Action, formally endorsed Pickren's campaign for the state board of education.

Also among Pickren's supporters: activist and self-declared prophet Lance Wallnau, who identifies as a Christian nationalist. Wallnau promoted Pickren during CPAC in 2021, seeking her out on the conference floor and recording a video with her while encouraging viewers to support her.

Pickren, for her part, has called on voters to elect Christians.

"It's so important to elect conservatives and Christians to our local school board races so that they can pass policy that will protect [the] children in each school district," she said in an interview conducted earlier this month on the far-right Brighteon network.

In that same interview, Pickren noted that during her time as a local school board trustee, she created a "Superintendent's Pastoral Team" that invited pastors and youth pastors to volunteer at schools, which she insisted lessened violence and drug use. When she began running for the state board of education, she said, she prayed for a way to replicate the local program at the state level.

According to Pickren, the answer to those prayers came via a call from a staffer who worked for Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.): The staffer put her in touch with the leaders of Mission Generation, a Christian mission organization specializing in placing school chaplains around the world.

Pickren would go on to serve on the board of the National School Chaplain Association, a project of Mission Generation. The group — which, according to the Texas Tribune, is run by Rocky Malloy, a self-described former drug-smuggling pirate — has openly expressed a desire to "influence those in education until the saving grace of Jesus becomes well-known, and students develop a personal relationship with Him."

Pickren, too, has spoken of the group's religious intentions during a Mission Generation event last year. In a video posted to the group's Instagram page, she encouraged attendees to donate to Mission Generation because "there are children who need chaplains," explaining that there is "a whole generation of children that have never stepped foot one day inside of a church."

Six months later, when Middleton introduced the chaplains bill to the state Senate, Malloy of Mission Generation was among those who testified in support. So, too, was Pickren, who appeared to indicate personal involvement in authoring the chaplains bill: When discussing funding aspects of the proposal, she said it drew from a subset of government funds "because I did not feel, in talking with Sen. Middleton, that we needed to affect academic counseling budget."

Two days earlier, Pickren had tweeted a photo of herself and Malloy with Pastor Rafael Cruz, Sen. Cruz's father, saying the trio were "discussing the importance of school chaplains." But neither Malloy nor Pickren mentioned their group's evangelism-minded goals during their testimonies before the Senate committee, with Malloy insisting that chaplains "are not working to convert people to religion."

As the bill — which was also supported by Texas Values — progressed through the House, Mission Generation's website vanished, with its URL redirecting to the National School Chaplain Association website. When the Texas Tribune reached out about the Instagram video of Pickren's comments unearthed by Religion News Service, it promptly disappeared from Mission Generation's account.

As the bill came before the Texas House of Representatives, Democrats attached a provision introduced by Talarico that required school chaplains be endorsed by an organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Defense, the Federal Bureau of Prisons or the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The amendment potentially imperiled the ability of NSCA chaplains to serve in Texas schools, as the group is not recognized by the Defense Department.

But as noted in an article by The Washington Post, the amendment was stripped from the legislation after passage, likely clearing a path for NSCA chaplains to begin working in the Lone Star State.

While the bill will become law, its future remains uncertain. David Donatti of the Texas American Civil Liberties Union told RNS that his group is considering a legal challenge.

"It is truly a real-time experiment on our children," Donatti said of the proposal, arguing that it could end up "eroding our fundamental freedom of religion and belief."

— Religion News Service

This article was reported with support from the Stiefel Freethought Foundation.

Climate activists stand trial at Vatican

BY CLAIRE GIANGRAVÉ

VATICAN CITY — Three Italian environmental activists faced their second trial hearing at the Vatican on Wednesday for having glued themselves to the famous statue "Laocoön and His Sons" in the Vatican Museums last summer.

Ester Goffi, a 25-year-old art history student, and Guido Viero, a 61-year-old health worker, glued their hands to the marble statue last August in a sign of protest urging world leaders to combat climate change, while an unnamed friend was filming on her phone. The statue was not damaged, and Vatican police eliminated the recording on the device after seizing it.

The three stood trial at the Vatican on charges of vandalism. They belong to the Italian movement Ultima Generazione, which translates to Last Generation and is responsible for several public vandalism acts to major artistic and historical sites in Italy aimed at drawing attention to the danger of climate change. On Sunday, Last Generation activists filled the famous Trevi Fountain in Rome with black coloring to protest fossil fuels.

At the first hearing on March 9, the activists chose not to attend. The Vatican legal system uses canon law, and its criminal law is based on the Italian penal code from 1889. "The lawyers who are authorized to defend us in the Vatican State are too expensive and we can't afford them," a Last Generation spokesperson told local media outlets.

Last Generation activists gathered Wednesday afternoon near the Vatican in protest. In the interview they pointed to the floods that have overrun the northern region of Emilia Romagna in Italy, which has already claimed 14 lives, as "a sour taste of what awaits us in the coming years."

"We must change the course immediately and cut public funding to fossil fuels if we wish to limit the escalation of extreme events and save innocent lives," the organization said. "Our actions have this objective: protect the lives of our fellow citizens and people living in the rest of the world. Ours is a desperate cry before the lack of action by politicians who have the responsibility to protect the environment and the populations."

Pope Francis is considered an ally of environmental movements ever since he published his "green encyclical" Laudato Si in 2015 promoting the care of creation and the fight against climate change. In a new book, "The Taste for Change: Ecological Transition as the Path to Happiness," Francis wrote in the preface that "we must admit sincerely that it is the young people who embody the change we all objectively need."

— Religion News Service

ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/AP

Ester Goffi stood trial with two other climate activists at the Vatican on Wednesday for having staged a protest last summer when they glued themselves to the famous Vatican statue "Laocoön and His Sons."

A documentary explores the ancient and modern practice of the Sabbath

BY YONAT SHIMRON

In his book "The Sabbath," Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel wrote that Jews did not build great cathedrals into space. Their great accomplishment was a cathedral in time — the Shabbat, or 24-hour period of rest.

"Six days a week we live under the tyranny of things of space; on the Sabbath we try to become attuned to holiness in time," Heschel wrote.

That cathedral in time is part of the filmmaker Martin Doblmeier's latest documentary, a two-part program called "Sabbath." The two-hour film begins airing on PBS stations June 1 but is immediately available to stream on his journeyfilms.com website.

As in his previous documentaries, Doblmeier has recruited an A-list of theologians, scholars and clergy to offer insights historical, theological and sociological.

The Sabbath first appears in the biblical story of creation, in which God "rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done." Observance of the Sabbath also is one of the Ten Commandments: "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it Holy."

But the documentary is not overly concerned with theology. The film consists of travels to various religious communities to illustrate their Sabbath practices. The places visited include the headquarters of Chabad, the Hasidic sect in Crown Heights, Brooklyn; a Seventh-day Adventist church in Loma Linda, Calif.; and the predominantly African American Eastern Star Church led by the Indianapolis Pastor Jeffrey A. Johnson.

Doblmeier may be best known for his public television specials on Reinhold Niebuhr, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Howard Thurman, Dorothy Day and Heschel, part of the "Prophetic Voices" series. In addressing religious subjects, Doblmeier is both ecumenical and interfaith, bringing a respectful and deferential lens to his subjects. He includes a segment on Islam's Friday noontime jumah prayer, so central to the faith and in some ways similar to a Sabbath.

Religion News Service spoke with Doblmeier about the making of "Sabbath" and how he tried to explore religious as well as secular benefits of the biblical day of rest. The interview was edited for length and clarity.

Q: Why did you want to do a two-part series on the Sabbath?

A: Rereading "The Sabbath" in preparation for doing the film on Heschel sparked some thinking about the idea. It was an interesting universal topic. Doing films for public television, we're looking for religious topics that can reach a broad audience. The notion of organized, institutionalized, mandated rest was something I felt everyone in the culture needed. As we unpacked the story and did the research, we discovered groups and organizations calling for a one-day-a-week "tech Sabbath" from cellphones and laptops. So it not only applies to people who gravitate to a religious expression of their beliefs, but also to those who are areligious but are looking for a way to step out of the culture and do it routinely. For all those factors, Sabbath was a good topic. We filmed it at the tail end of the pandemic. We were able to witness people filtering back into the pews. That was a good sign that maybe the Sabbath will bring them back into congregational life again.

Q: Several segments of the documentary feature religious communal farming — at Princeton Theological Seminary's Farminary and at Abundance Farm, a Jewish food project in Northampton, Massachusetts. What's the connection with Sabbath?

A: The notion of Sabbath is rooted in the story of creation. On the seventh day, God rested. Discovering people in Princeton, New Jersey, who, as part of a theological tradition, wanted to teach farming to a new generation of pastors was a wonderful connection. Whatever they draw from the land they replenish back into the land. This is part of God's creation and the Sabbath story. In Massachusetts at Abundance Farm, it's not just the notion that we have to rest, but we have to rest from our involvement and engagement in the world. The world needs to rest from us. That's the underlying theme. It's part of the story of the Sabbath.

Q: Many of the people you interviewed seemed to evolve in their thinking about Sabbath. Tell me about one.

A: We were out in Los Angeles and spent a week at Our Lady Queen of Angels. La Placita is the name of the church. The priest does eight Masses and 60 baptisms over the course of the weekend. He came to me and said, "Thank you for making me think of Sabbath. I hadn't thought about it deeply, and this has forced me to go back and revisit my own tradition." Sure enough, he preached on Sabbath while we were there. In a small way, if we can get people to connect the dots and to think about creation and themselves and rest, hopefully we can contribute in some small way to what's happening in the culture.

Q: In one part of the documentary, you talk to college students at the University of California at Berkeley who came from Sabbath-observing homes, but now they're on their own. Why did you include them?

A: If you're raised in a particular tradition, once you get to that age range — 18, 20, 22 — you have to make your own choices. Does the Sabbath as a practice work for you? We didn't want to shy away from the fact that people are struggling over that. We wanted to look at the reality that in a 24/7 world and especially a competitive world, these young people do it sometimes, but not all the time. I thought that was admirable. It's not easy to put down your cellphone or your books or to walk away from a job. That word "trust" came up over and over again. Can you trust that if you put down the work for a day that your co-worker will not jump ahead in line? That's not the way most of us think today. We think we have to be in the fight.

Q: Some people have described Sabbath as countercultural — a defiant or even rebellious act. Do you agree?

A: Susannah Heschel, the daughter of Abraham Joshua Heschel, talked about being raised in the Heschel household. He was known as a great champion of civil rights, friend of Martin Luther King Jr. He was on the front lines in Selma, campaigned to end the war in Vietnam, championed Soviet Jews. But on Shabbat, Susannah Heschel says, her family didn't talk about those things. It was not appropriate. And I thought, there's a lesson here. It's the willingness to let your soul have a day off. To be able to commit to not thinking or talking about those things that can be divisive, disruptive or argumentative. To let your soul have a day of rest is just as valuable as engaging in public communal worship. It's absolutely vital, especially in the culture today.

— Religion News Service

Subscriber Exclusives
The Washington Post

No joke: Free tickets to comedian Brandon Wardell on June 2 at 9:30 Club

Born in Seattle and raised in Fairfax, Va., the 30-year-old humorist, actor, and podcaster has been profiled in Vulture and Rolling Stone. "A potent cocktail of youthful energy and world-weary ironic distance, Brandon Wardell is the face of the next generation of comedy" (imposemagazine.com). His act "riffs on everything from streetwear to feet pics, and often involves delayed punchlines and disarming non sequiturs. Both onstage and online, Wardell parodies a certain kind of man, an archetype that is hard to pin down, but that nevertheless feels deeply familiar" (basementapproved.com).

See details at washingtonpost.com/my-post.

Two Oath Keepers are sentenced for roles in Jan. 6 attack

OATH KEEPERS FROM **B1**

she eventually met up with a group led by Meggs. The group marched single-file up the east Capitol steps and joined a mob that entered the Columbus Doors by force.

Harrelson, 42, a former Army sergeant from Titusville, Fla., received firearms training with Meggs in Florida and, according to prosecutors, served as "Meggs' right-hand man" in setting up video meetings and relaying instructions to other Florida Oath Keepers about stashing weapons for a "Quick Reaction Force" if violence erupted. Harrelson recorded himself yelling "Treason!" at Capitol occupants as he entered with Meggs.

Outside of Rhodes and Meggs, Watkins received the longest sentence to date for any Jan. 6 defendant who has not been convicted of assaulting a police officer. But Harrelson received a fraction of his co-defendants' time and close to the 45-month average sentence for 22 other Jan. 6 defendants who were convicted of obstructing Congress but not found guilty of conspiring with an organized group or of committing violence.

Mehta found that Watkins's and Harrelson's actions qualified for an enhanced terrorism sentencing penalty for offenses calculated to coerce the government, but the judge slashed years off the penalties sought by prosecutors. Mehta noted that Watkins, like Harrelson, had been acquitted of conspiring to use force to oppose government authority, and that she turned herself in and cooperated short of pleading guilty.

The judge added that of 2,000 to 3,000 communications exchanged by co-conspirators, he found only "a couple dozen" by Harrelson. That suggested lesser intent and explained why the jury also acquitted him of conspiring to obstruct Congress, while he was convicted of actually obstructing it, plotting to interfere with police and destroying evidence, the judge said.

"What distinguishes you from everyone else so far is that there not a single word on a Signal communication that anyone would consider extremist, radicalized, encouraging someone to engage in violence, or words like 'civil war,' 'revolution' or thinking about death," Mehta said. "You are not someone who bears the same responsibility or culpability as the others."

Defense attorney Brad Geyer called Harrelson "a horse of a different color" and urged the judge to send his client to his family.

Watkins was accused of merging her local Ohio armed group with the Oath Keepers in 2020. She became a recruiter and organizer in advance of the Capitol attack, bringing firearms and other weapons and storing them outside Washington.

Watkins texted others, telling them to prepare for violence to keep Trump in office, beginning on Nov. 9, 2020, six days after the election, and she spoke of getting recruits "fighting fit by innaugeration" and uniting Oath Keepers and other extremist groups. "Be prepared to fight hand to hand," she wrote. "Now or never."

Like Rhodes, she expressed hope that Trump would invoke the Insurrection Act and mobilize private militias so he could remain in power. Watkins entered the Capitol with other Oath Keepers in military-style gear before joining rioters in a Senate hallway, yelling "Push" and "Get in there" as they confronted police protecting the Senate chamber.

Watkins was acquitted of destroying federal property but found guilty of conspiring to obstruct and actually obstructing an official proceeding of Congress, rioting and plotting to impede officers.

Both obstruction charges are punishable by the same maximum 20-year prison sentence as seditious conspiracy.

Addressing the court in an orange jail suit, Watkins apologized for impeding police and Congress and for inspiring anyone to enter the Capitol, and she said she was ashamed of contributing to the country's political division. She maintained, as she testified at trial, that she was arming herself because she believed disinformation propagated widely by Infowars host Alex Jones and other far-right leaders that a Biden presidency would allow the United Nations and China to invade the United States.

"Violence is never the answer," Watkins said. "My actions there were impermissible. ... Today you're going to hold this idiot responsible."

But Watkins maintained that she thought that the 2020 election result "needed a thorough audit to ensure reliability," and prosecutors said she continued to blame police for the riot as recently as in a January call from jail.

"Boohoo. The poor little police officers got a little PTSD. Wah," Assistant U.S. Attorney Alexandra Hughes said Watkins was recorded saying, as well as, "The police are responsible for inciting January 6."

Defense attorney Jonathan Crisp said Watkins "never talked about overthrowing the government. She talked about fighting to support it" and was recruited by the Oath Keepers as a medic.

Crisp said Watkins would have pleaded guilty to all counts but seditious conspiracy, but prosecutors did not let her, and she would not contest her convictions. He noted that Watkins — a trans woman — was "rejected by her family," the Army and colleagues she served with in Iraq.

He explained her comments about police as coming from someone who has been "demonized" and part of a group wrongly made "a poster child" for Jan. 6, even though they showed up after the Capitol was breached and committed little violence. At the same time, Crisp said, Watkins as a former soldier viewed police as being unprepared to manage the crowd, provoking it with tear gas and complaining about the physical risks of their jobs afterward.

"There is cognitive dissonance between yes, this was truly horrible," and, "It's part of the job ... and I think that she struggles with that," Crisp said. "That doesn't exonerate the acts of crime. ... It doesn't dismiss the trauma."

Mehta credited Watkins for her service but said her fears about the consequences for the country if Biden won were "delusional."

Prosecutor Jeff Nestler argued that Harrelson knew that the Oath Keepers were bringing guns for "offensive," not defensive, purposes and that he ranked just behind Meggs in a leadership role. Harrelson patted down an officer at the Capitol to see if he had on body armor and yelled "Treason" there, knowing that the penalty for traitors is death, the prosecutor said.

"What they are saying is that people in this building deserve to be killed for serving their constitutional duties. That is what people including Harrelson thought," Nestler said.

But Harrelson said he voted only once in his life, in 2018, and went to the Capitol on Jan. 6 only because Meggs called him three days earlier for "a security job."

"I have no gripes against the government then or now," Harrelson said, apologizing to police he encountered and to his wife and children for "demolishing" their lives.

Tom Jackman contributed to this report.

JIM BOURG/REUTERS

Jessica Watkins, center, with other Oath Keepers outside the Capitol during the Jan. 6, 2021, attack.

'She just did it all': D.C. official Linda Harllee Harper dies at 57

HARPER FROM **B1**

on the rise.

Harllee Harper also worked closely with the outgoing police chief, Robert J. Contee III. Bowser administration officials are in the midst of interviewing candidates to fill his job.

"She was the go-to person for focusing the government on reducing violence and gun violence," D.C. Council Chairman Phil Mendelson (D) said Friday. "From the standpoint of the city, her loss means we have to step back and start over a bit with approaching and solving violence."

Mendelson said that Contee's departure, troubles with the city's forensic lab, and federal prosecutors' declining to prosecute a large number of people police arrest add up to "quite a number of challenges" for D.C.

"And Ms. Harllee Harper's unfortunate passing just adds to that," the council chair said.

Harllee Harper's mother, Gwendolyn Harllee, said she was "the best daughter anyone could ask for. Most people know about her deep commitment to the city, her work ethic and her integrity."

She said her daughter was equally devoted to her family, including her husband and 17-year-old son.

"She just did it all," Harllee said.

When Bowser put Harllee Harper in charge of the two agencies focused on reducing violence, Harllee Harper described the move as "the logical next step" to combine one agency tasked with formulating policy with another tasked with putting policy into practice.

The mayor said in her Twitter statement that Harllee Harper was always "empowering people closest to the communities she was trying to help. She didn't give up on people."

Before taking over the gun violence prevention office, Harllee Harper served as deputy director of the D.C. Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services. Before that she worked in nonprofit and for-profit agencies, concentrating on restorative justice and youth development programs, according to her official D.C. biography.

Several activists and members of the council tweeted condolences Friday. Charles Allen (D-Ward 6), who worked closely with her when he chaired the public safety committee, said in a statement that Harllee Harper "shined around young people and all those who need a second chance in life."

In an April interview, Harllee Harper said everyone is "increasingly frustrated with the crime," and she asserted the personal and sometimes random motives fueling violence in the city have made it harder to stop.

She said that when she took the job in the District in 2021, "It was mostly believed that the gun violence was rooted in feuding communities."

Now, she said, it's "interpersonal disputes that are solved with a gun by people with poor conflict resolutions."

"How does the mayor solve that?" Harllee Harper said. "How do any of us solve that?"

Rolling to Remember street closures

These streets will be closed from about 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Source: D.C. police THE WASHINGTON POST

On Sunday, motorcycle rally returns to the District

The Rolling to Remember motorcycle demonstration will return to Washington this Memorial Day weekend, bringing Sunday road closures to the nation's capital.

The event, aimed in part at raising awareness of mental health issues among veterans, will begin in the Pentagon parking lot. Then the motorcyclists will cross the Potomac River and ride into the District.

After starting out from RFK Stadium the past three years, the event's participants are returning to the Pentagon this year, beginning their ride from a staging area in the north parking lot.

The lot will open at 7 a.m. Sunday, and the demonstration ride is scheduled to begin at noon. D.C. police said the streets marked above will be closed to traffic from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

MARYLAND

High court halts reinstatement of Syed conviction

BY OMARI DANIELS

Maryland's highest court on Thursday temporarily halted Adnan Syed's murder conviction from being reinstated as it weighs whether to take up the "Serial" podcast subject's case.

In a one-page order, the Maryland Supreme Court said it would prevent the Maryland Appellate Court's 2-1 decision to reinstate Syed's conviction from taking effect while the justices consider whether they will hear the matter themselves.

The decision — while expected, because no one involved in the litigation opposed the move — means that Syed will remain free as the legal wrangling continues.

Syed, at age 17, was arrested in the killing of Hae Min Lee, an 18-year-old he once dated. He was convicted of murder in 2000 and sentenced to life behind bars. The case drew widespread attention when the podcast "Serial" investigated it.

Syed waged a long and — until recently — unsuccessful effort to have his conviction tossed. Then in September, at the request of then-Baltimore City State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby, Circuit Court Judge Melissa Phinn vacated his conviction after deciding that there were problems with how prosecutors had turned over evidence to defense attorneys.

Mosby's office soon moved to drop the charges.

But Young Lee, Hae Min Lee's brother, appealed the matter, arguing that he was not given adequate time to participate in the hearing where Syed's conviction was vacated. The Maryland Appellate Court sided with him, reinstating Syed's conviction and ordering a new hearing — though it delayed its ruling from taking effect for 60 days. It will now be delayed even longer.

While a new hearing might produce the same result, Mosby is no longer the state's attorney in Baltimore, and her successor, Ivan Bates, has not made his position on the case clear. James E. Bentley II, a spokesman for the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office, said in a statement that the office would "refrain from commenting on the Adnan Syed case until the appellate process runs its course. Jurisdiction is currently with the appellate courts of Maryland, and the Office of the Attorney General is handling the case."

Erica Suter, Syed's attorney, said previously that reincarcerating her client would be "devastating for him and his family and would be an affront to justice."

Young Lee, who lives in California, was told on a Friday that the hearing on vacating Syed's conviction would take place three days later, on a Monday. He spoke at the hearing via Zoom, though the appellate court determined that was not enough to satisfy his rights as a victim's family member.

Syed's attorneys asked the Maryland Supreme Court to take up the case and review several legal issues, including whether the Zoom appearance was sufficient and whether the decision by Mosby's office to dismiss the charges against Syed made the case moot.

David Sanford, one of the Lee family attorneys, said in a recent interview that he, too, planned to challenge part of the appellate panel's opinion, which limited Lee's ability to actively challenge in court evidence presented by prosecutors to have the case against Syed thrown out. Sanford said his office was "not on a campaign to have Adnan Syed reincarcerated."

BARBARA HADDOCK TAYLOR/BALTIMORE SUN/AP

Adnan Syed's conviction was vacated last year, but the Maryland Appellate Court reinstated it in March and ordered a new hearing.

The Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office would "refrain from commenting on the Adnan Syed case until the appellate process runs its course."

James E. Bentley II, a spokesman for the office

THE DISTRICT

Another May day with sun and sky aplenty

BY MARTIN WEIL

By tradition, the eve of Memorial Day weekend may be time to escape Washington for other climes, but Friday's weather seemed the sort to make us stay home and savor.

Whatever may urge D.C. residents onto the roads, it appeared unlikely that it was Friday's conditions, a blend of temperatures in the 70s, blue skies and humidity that seemed too low to be true.

Perhaps complaints about meteorological monotony might be entertained; for as splendid as Friday appeared, it did seem much like so many of the earlier days here this month.

The high temperature of 76 degrees fell three degrees short of the average high for May 26. Friday became our 15th 70-degree day here this month.

But under the bright and blazing Washington sun of these weeks before and after the solstice, few 70-degree days seem to prompt protest, especially not these pleasantly dry 70s.

Friday, and the May days that came before, might make us wonder at the sources of our good fortune. Friday also, in its salubrious dryness and absence of menacing clouds, freed us from fear of rain so fully as to encourage worry about drought.

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Montgomery schools face suit over LGBTQ-inclusive books

BOOKS FROM **B1**

because of a health education framework that included discussions around gender identity in the elementary-level grades.

In Montgomery County, the parents and organizers who are protesting have said they are not trying to get the books removed but want the school system to restore the opt-out provision. The complaint from the families suing the district does not request removal of the books.

The books were celebrated by LGBTQ advocates and students who were asking for the school system to diversify its curriculum. Some of the books on the reading list include "Love Violet," about a girl who is trying to figure out how to give a valentine to her crush, who is another girl in class, and "My Rainbow," about a mother who makes a rainbow wig for her transgender daughter.

The parents allege in the complaint that Montgomery County is violating a state law that saying topics around gender and sexuality require an opt-out provision. They say the books introduce conversation in the classroom about gender identity.

But the school system has a different characterization of the state law. School officials say the policy the parents reference explicitly allows an opt-out option for health education curriculum. Because the new books are part of its language arts curriculum, they say, the opt-outs are not allowed.

At a school board meeting Thursday, Niki Hazel, the associate superintendent of curriculum and instructional programs, reinforced the state guidelines. Hazel emphasized during a question-and-answer session with the school board members that the books are not lessons on sexuality.

"Fundamentally, diversity is a good thing; inclusion is a good thing. By providing these diverse and inclusive texts, by aligning ourselves and following state guidance on when opt-out is appropriate, we are doing a service to our students," said Arvin Kim, the school board's student representative and a senior at Walt Whitman High School.

The complaint points to passages from the books that the parents find to be inappropriate and inconsistent with their values. For example, they point to a line in "Love Violet" where the protagonist, Violet, describes how her classmate Mira makes her "heart skip." They also point out specific parts of "Pride Puppy," a story about a dog that takes off during a Pride parade. At the beginning of the book, there is a "search and find word list" that encourages readers to look for objects throughout the picture book like an "intersex [flag]," "leather" and "underwear," which the complaint notes. The list also contains objects such as muffins, a recycling bin and ripped jeans.

The families' attorneys plan to ask in federal court for the current no-opt-out policy to be blocked.

They also ask for the school district to award the parents damages since they have been "forced to pursue other educational opportunities for their children."

Park Police use of force against journalists in 2020 violated policy, report says

PROTEST FROM **B1**

'heat of the moment' situations like the protests in Lafayette Square in June 2020."

On that day, hundreds of peaceful demonstrators found themselves the targets of law enforcement officers firing stun grenades, gas and rubber bullets into the crowd. The protesters choked on the chemicals in the air, cried and shouted "Don't shoot!" as they ran away from officers on foot and horseback. Soon after, Trump walked through the park to visit the historic St. John's Church, where he posed for a photo op holding a Bible.

A 2021 report by the Interior Department's inspector general found that Park Police did not lead law enforcement officials into the crowd of protesters to clear the way for Trump's photo op. Instead, the report said, it was part of preparations to clear the protesters and erect a fence that began two days before the park clearing.

The latest inspector general report found that during the clearing, the two Park Police officers, who are also unnamed in the report and both had more than 10 years of experience, used more force than necessary against the journalists. The report refers to all subjects and witnesses with he/him pronouns to maintain anonymity.

"I appreciate the Department of the Interior Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) thorough investigation and I am reviewing the full report," Park Police Chief Jessica Taylor said in a statement in response to a request for comment on the report. "Consistent with USPP policy, following the completion of the OIG report this matter was referred to the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) to recommend any corrective actions, including disciplinary actions, if warranted."

Both journalists were on H Street near Vermont Avenue before law enforcement began forcibly clearing protesters from the park. As the police line started moving forward, one of the officers noticed a person standing off to the side but did not realize the person was a videographer, according to the report.

"I perceived a threat from the person hiding behind the wall during a violent demonstration," the officer was quoted as saying in the report. The officer worried this person was trying to "ambush" officers and used his shield to strike Myers in the stomach.

Then the officer noticed the person was holding a camera. Although the officer told investigators that he or she did not strike Myers a second time, the report says video evidence shows the officer grabbed Myers's camera and pushed it.

Myers continued filming even after the shield strike and told investigators the officer "punched" the camera and "caused the camera to hit back into his head, making him see 'stars' and causing a 'bit of whiplash.'"

The report concludes that the initial shield strike into Myers's stomach complied with Park Police policy to use "only the minimum level of reasonable force necessary to control a situation" but that the subsequent use of force by pushing his camera did not.

After another officer directed the two journalists to move in a specific direction, they followed commands and began running west on H Street. Then a second Park Police officer hit Brace across the upper back, shoulders and backpack with his baton, according to the report and video of the incident. The strike damaged a camera lens inside the backpack, Brace said, according to the report.

The second Park Police officer told investigators he thought Brace had "assaulted a Federal officer and would be a fleeing felon" when he observed the two individuals running away. "I didn't know if [the Reporter] was coming to try to penetrate our lines and then assault another officer," the second officer told investigators.

Ultimately, the report said that baton strike did not comply with use-of-force policy because Brace was retreating, following officer orders, and was not a threat.

Brace testified before the House Natural Resources Committee after the incident that she and Myers were "assaulted" by officers who shot at them with rubber bullets and punched their camera as they repeatedly cried out "media."

"As a reporter, I have no interest in becoming the story. But over recent weeks, many of us have been left with no choice," she told lawmakers. "I have been shocked to see how many journalists have been attacked, beaten and detained, just for doing their job."

MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

U.S. Park Police officers monitor protesters near the White House on May 30, 2020. Hundreds of peaceful demonstrators found themselves the targets of law enforcement during a crackdown on racial justice protesters there two days later. Two journalists with an Australian television network were working together in Lafayette Square to cover demonstrations over the Minneapolis police killing of George Floyd when the officers used force against them.

BONNIE CASH/POOL/THE HILL

Amelia Brace, a correspondent for Seven News Australia, watches a video as she makes an opening statement during a House Natural Resources Committee hearing on the incident in June 2020.

THE DISTRICT

Off-leash dog attacks beaver in Rock Creek Park

BY DANA HEDGPETH

Sometimes domestic pets interact with wildlife and the result isn't pretty.

Such was the case on May 14, when a dog that was off its leash attacked a wild beaver in Rock Creek Park near Boulder Bridge. The National Park Service said the beaver was severely hurt and had to be euthanized.

The Park Service used the incident as a time to remind people to keep their dogs leashed. Federal regulations require all pets to be leashed, and owners can be subject to fines of up to $80.

In the May 14 case, the Park Service said on Thursday that the owner was not fined.

Beavers are native to Rock Creek Park, and they often build dams along the waterways from nearby trees. Chelsea Sullivan, a spokesperson for the Park Service, said Thursday that the "dog was off-leash and saw the beaver, went over and attacked it."

Officials didn't have statistics of how often such incidents occur, but Sullivan said "it is an issue with people having dogs off-leash and there's a negative interaction like that." Sometimes, Sullivan said, an off-leash dog spooks a horse, or other people may not feel comfortable with an off-leash dog near them.

"It is so important to keep a dog on-leash," Sullivan said. "It's not only for the safety of other people and other animals, but also for the safety of your pet."

CRAIG HUDSON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

The National Park Service said the beaver attacked May 14 in Rock Creek Park, above, was euthanized.

And remember — Rock Creek Park is home to wild animals.

"Just because you think your dog is well-behaved or won't do anything, it doesn't mean a deer, coyote or foxes will appreciate a dog that's off on a trail and not on its leash," Sullivan said.

Jeanne Braha, executive director of the Rock Creek Conservancy, said the organization is seeing more beavers in Rock Creek so there are "more chances for dogs and beavers to interact" if the pets are off-leash.

Dogs being off-leash and off marked trails in the forest also creates troubles for other wildlife, including squirrels, chipmunks, groundhogs and birds, she said. For example, D.C.'s official bird, the wood thrush, is a ground-nesting bird so a dog that's "running in the woods can disrupt those nests," Braha said. Even the scent of a dog can agitate the birds and get them stressed, she said.

"They may shake or expend more energy looking for food," Braha said. "They may leave the area and go somewhere else because they're scared or they smelled the dog."

Plants can also be trampled by dogs that are off-leash, Braha said, or the animal's fur could be carrying the seeds of plants that could be invasive.

Outdoor experts said they encourage dog owners to take their pets to the city's dog parks for exercise and being off-leash.

Va. businessman pleads guilty in covid relief scam

FRAUD FROM **B1**

Magee "personally derived" about $5.3 million of the total haul, he admitted in the court filing. His attorney, Stuart A. Sears, did not respond to a request for comment. The businesses he used to claim relief money included Infinity Solutions Group, a consultancy that claimed high-profile clients on its website, including Sprint and the IRS.

Other businesses Magee had registered and for which he sought covid relief money are the Minority Owned Business Coalition, United Basketball Association, Bull Run Capital Investments, Bounce Mania, Onyx Special Police and the Gifted Hands Moving Co.

Gilcher obtained $1.4 million from the scheme, but he wrote checks back to Magee's company, Bull Run Capital, totaling about $620,000, prosecutors said.

The federal government has spent nearly $5 trillion on coronavirus relief programs, and PPP fraud has been rampant. The Magee case was investigated by a special task force set up to combat such fraud, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia, which prosecuted Gilcher and Magee.

In 2022, prosecutors with the attorney's office charged more than 50 people in 26 fraud schemes related to the coronavirus pandemic, involving attempts to siphon nearly $125 million from the U.S. government, according to statistics released by U.S. Attorney Jessica D. Aber last year.

Gilcher described Magee as an impresario with highflying credentials. According to Gilcher's plea documents, Magee said he had a doctoral degree from Johns Hopkins University; "that he had played football at the University of Alabama under a legendary coach; that he had been an Army Ranger; and that he had served in the 'Old Guard' Army regiment at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier."

The document did not say whether Gilcher had verified those claims.

But Gilcher said he called him "Doctor Magee," and took direction from him on falsifying documents that were then sent to TD Bank and the Small Business Administration, which manages the EIDL program. Gilcher's attorney, Christopher Leibig, declined to comment Friday.

A third man, identified in court documents as Magee's brother-in-law, J.S., also took part in the scheme, taking directions from Magee on covid relief loans on behalf of four companies, according to Magee's plea documents. J.S. was not publicly charged with wrongdoing as of Friday.

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DEATH NOTICE

DOYON

ROGER WILLIAM DOYON

Roger William Doyon, 89, of Fairfax, Virginia passed away on May 20, 2023 from complications of Parkinson's disease.

Born on October 23, 1933 in Manchester, New Hampshire, Roger was valedictorian of his grammar school in both English and French. He graduated from the University of New Hampshire, served in the U.S. Army Reserve, and received a graduate degree from George Washington University. He enjoyed a 35-year career in civil engineering and international relations for the U.S. Department of the Navy and the National Science Foundation.

Roger was a devoted husband to his wife, Muriel, of 62 years, a loving father to his sons Mark, Scott, and Craig, and a doting pépère to his grandchildren Alison, Matthew, and Ruby. He was a lifelong Catholic and member of St. Leo the Great Catholic Church in Fairfax, Virginia.

Beyond his professional and family life, Roger loved traveling, gardening, studying history, and showering tough love on his beloved Washington pro football team.

Roger is survived by his wife, Muriel Doyon of Fairfax, Virginia, his sons Mark Doyon of Winchester, Virginia, Scott Doyon of Decatur, Georgia, and Craig Doyon of Chamblee, Georgia, and his grandchildren Alison Doyon of Irvine, California, Matthew Doyon of New York, New York, and Ruby Doyon of Decatur, Georgia. He leaves behind his loved daughters-in-law Kathleen Doyon, Robin Doyon, and Ashley Dupuy.

Roger was preceded in death by his father Albert Doyon, his mother Lillie Doyon, and his brother Paul Doyon.

On Wednesday, May 31, a viewing (10 a.m.) and a funeral service (11 a.m.) will be held at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, 3700 Blenheim Blvd., Fairfax, VA 22030. A reception will follow at 12:30 p.m. at Demaine Funeral Home, 10565 Main St., Fairfax, VA 22030. Friends, family, and acquaintances are also welcome to attend the burial at Fairfax City Cemetery (next to Demaine Funeral Home) immediately following the funeral service.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Little Sisters of the Poor in memory of Roger Doyon.

Rest in peace, dear Rog, Dad, and Pépère.

FALCI

FRANK PAUL FALCI JR. (Age 90)

On Sunday, May 21, 2023, Frank Paul Falci, Jr., a long-time resident of Potomac, MD passed away in his home with his entire family at bedside. Frank is survived by his beloved wife of 66 years, Wanda Falci; his daughter Jill and two sons Scott and Craig; four granddaughters and one great-grandson. Frank is also survived by two siblings, Arden Bushnell and Kenneth Falci.

Frank was born August 24, 1932, and spent his childhood in Bronx, NY during the Great Depression. Gifted with intellect and scholarship, Frank attained degrees in naval architecture, marine engineering, and nuclear physics, and became a part of architectural and engineering history. After graduating from the elite Webb Institute, Frank was recruited by Admiral Hyman Rickover, "father" of the nuclear navy, to be part of the engineering and design team of the USS Nautilus, the world's first nuclear-powered submarine and naval vessel as well as director of nuclear reactor design for the subsequent generation of nuclear-powered naval vessels. Departing Rickover's team in 1961, Frank continued his career in nuclear engineering in both the public and private sector and also became a successful business entrepreneur.

Frank's Viewing will take place on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, from 2 to 4 p.m. at De Vol Funeral Home, 10 East Deer Park Drive, Gaithersburg, MD. Mass will be held on Wednesday, May 31, 2023, from 10 to 11 a.m. at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 1513 Dunster Road, Rockville, MD followed by the Burial at 11:30 a.m. at Parklawn Memorial Cemetery, 12800 Veirs Mill Road, Rockville, MD. Please sign family guest book at:

www.DeVolFuneralHome.com

LARSON

MARTHA LOUISE LARSON

March 29, 1945 – May 7, 2023

Martha Louise Larson nee Brill was the kind of person who liked to read obituaries, so this is for all like-minded souls. Born second of four children (Alan, Martha, Dianne and Steve) to Gregory and Bernice Brill of Evansville, Indiana, Martha somehow never developed a love of basketball, despite Bosse High School's state championship runs throughout her high school career. She was one of the few women at IBM in the early years of the digital revolution, and was a feminist without trying simply by asking where the women's bathroom was at Cheyenne Mountain. When her work brought her to the Washington, DC, area, she caught the eye of a gentleman 20 years her senior named Charles (Chuck) Larson, a Wisconsin dairy farm boy who had made something of himself in the wild world of electric rate regulation. They married on Juneteenth (although it wasn't well known as such at the time) and settled in the Kalorama neighborhood of DC. They raised two remarkable children, Christopher and Alexia, who are responsible for writing this, and lost one, Hans Peter, at an early age, too soon. Chuck secured the family a historic tribute to his farming roots in Edgewater, Maryland, and Martha was known far and wide for her skill with delicious food: T-bone steak, crown roast of pork, whole stuffed suckling pig, pigeon pie made with real pigeons, fire roasted chestnuts, the most deliciously balanced sweet and tart pies, meringue mounded like a cloud and ingeniously disguised as mushrooms on a buche de Noel…we could go on but you would ruin your paper or keyboard with drool. In her final years, she feasted almost exclusively on little tangerines and cherry tomatoes – why? Why not! By the time the new century had rolled around, she had put down roots in Baltimore City and suffered the loss of Chuck. She thrived in the eccentric spaces of Baltimore and made the farmer's market under the highway her own. After many years as a Mt. Vernon neighborhood fixture, her health declined and she passed away on Sunday, May 7, 2023. She will always be loved and celebrated for her extraordinary life. We will be holding a memorial service for Martha Larson in Eccleston Chapel at Emmanuel Episcopal Church (811 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD, 21201) on Saturday, June 10, 2023 at 11 a.m., with a reception to follow in the Chapel Gallery. Flowers can be sent directly to Emmanuel Episcopal Church, and in lieu of flowers, a donation in Martha's memory to The House Institute Foundation (hifla.org, 1127 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 1620, Los Angeles, CA 90017) would be welcome.

NEWMAN

JACK R. NEWMAN

Jack R. Newman passed away peacefully in Montgomery, OH on May 5, 2023 at the age of 89.

Jack was an attorney in Washington, DC and served as senior legal counsel and adviser to the utility and nuclear industries in the U.S. and abroad for more than 50 years. He was born in Brooklyn, NY and was a graduate of Cornell University and Columbia University Law School. Jack met Karen, his wife of 63 years, while both were serving in the Air Force at Selfridge Air Force Base.

After graduating from law school, Jack joined the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission in Washington, DC. He was appointed as legal counsel to the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, where he advised members of Congress on issues involving military and civilian uses of nuclear energy.

Jack was a founding partner of the private law firm of Lowenstein, Newman, Reis, and Axelrad in Washington, DC to focus on the specialty practice of energy law and utility regulation. The firm significantly expanded and was renamed Newman and Holtzinger, where Jack served as lead counsel representing numerous electric utility and nuclear energy clients. He completed his legal career as a senior partner in the law firm of Morgan Lewis & Bockius where he was recognized as one of the leading lawyers in the United States in his legal field. After 30 years in private law practice, he started a private consulting practice to advise law firms and others in the utility industry on regulatory and environmental issues.

In addition to his long and remarkable career, Jack was an exceptional mentor who inspired and guided many individuals. Known for his intelligence and generosity, Jack always had a kind word and valuable advice for those seeking guidance. He helped many young attorneys and professionals launch their own successful careers through his unwavering support and belief in their potential.

Jack was a lifelong avid reader and his personal library over the years included thousands of books, including a curated collection of books on U.S. Presidents. He travelled the world with his wife Karen, and together they visited many wonderful destinations throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. Jack was a lifelong baseball fan as well. Growing up in Brooklyn, he enjoyed going to see the Dodgers play at Ebbets Field. He also enjoyed attending spring training sessions of the Washington Nationals baseball team in his later years.

He is preceded in death by his wife Karen and is survived by his son James and daughter-in-law Mary Beth of Loveland, OH, grandsons Matthew (Hannah) of Amelia, OH and Jacob Newman of New York City, and beloved nieces Bobbie Trauner and Carol Felix and their families.

In keeping with Jack's wishes, there will be no formal funeral services. A celebration of life with loved ones will be planned at a future time. To honor Jack, donations may be made in his memory to Doctors Without Borders or Operation Smile, two charities he was a passionate advocate for.

RUPPERT

MARGARET LITZ RUPPERT "Mickey"

Margaret "Mickey" Ruppert, (nee Litz) of Vero Beach, Florida died in her sleep at her home on May 19, 2023. She was 89 years old and had a long and active life.

She was preceded in death by her sister, Gloria Litz, brother, Francis Litz and oldest daughter, Susan Millette. She is survived by her husband, David and six children: Joanne Hockman (Michael) of Annapolis, MD, Nancy French (Mark) of Vero Beach, Mike Ruppert (Monica) of Severna Park, Joseph Ruppert (Jaci) of Vero Beach, John Ruppert of Annapolis, MD, and Tiffany Thomas (Joseph) of Severna Park; her brother, Thomas Litz of San Rafael, CA; as well as 21 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Visitation will be held on Thursday, June 1 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Barranco Severna Park Funeral Home, 495 Ritchie Hwy. A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on Friday, June 2 at 10:30 a.m. at St. John the Evangelist Church, 689 Ritchie Hwy. Severna Park, with the interment to follow at Lakemont Memorial Gardens in Davidsonville, MD. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. To view the full obituary or to leave an online condolence, please visit

www.barrancofuneralhome.com

POST YOUR CONDOLENCES

Now death notices on washingtonpost.com/obituaries allow you to express your sympathy with greater ease. Visit today.

The Washington Post

ANNOUNCEMENT

PAID DEATH NOTICES

MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY HOURS

May 29, 2023
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Photo Deadine:
12 noon

NO EXCEPTIONS

To place a notice, call 202-334-4122

email: deathnotices@washpost.com

The Washington Post

When the need arises, let families find you in the Funeral Services Directory.

To be seen in the Funeral Services Directory, please call paid Death Notices at 202-334-4122.

The Washington Post

DEATH NOTICE

ROSENTHAL

GARY MICHAEL ROSENTHAL

On Friday, May 26, 2023 GARY MICHAEL ROSENTHAL of Washington, DC. Beloved husband of Marta Goldsmith. Loving father of Reuben Rosenthal (Anna Rieper) and Sophie Rosenthal. Dear brother of Dale Rosenthal (Michael Cutler), and brother-in-law of Ileane Rosenthal (the late Donald), Cory Begner (Alan), Kim Goldsmith (Dave Johnson) and Abby Goldsmith (Dr. Kevin Hendler). Funeral services will be held on Sunday, May 28, 2023, 10 a.m. at the gazebo, at the Garden of Remembrance Memorial Park, Clarksburg, MD. A celebration of life service will be held at a later date. Shiva will be observed at the family home on Sunday and Monday at 7 p.m. and a virtual shiva on Tuesday at 7 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCan). Arrangements entrusted to TORCHINSKY HEBREW FUNERAL HOME, 202-541-1001.

DEATH NOTICE

MEYER

HOLLY HOPEWELL MEYER

Holly Hopewell Meyer of Rockville, died on Thursday, April 27, 2023.

Born December 20, 1931 in Newton, Massachusetts. Holly is survived by husband Robert A. Meyer, their children and grandchildren. A memorial will be held at 2 p.m. on August 26, 2023 at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to "Tree-Mendous Maryland Gift of Trees" program.

CEMETERY LOTS

2 cemetery plots at Judean Memorial Garden in Olney, MD, close to front at entrance. Total $6000/best. Call the deed owner 301-933-6804 Steve

IN MEMORIAM

CAGE

MARY E. CAGE

Mother, You left us beautiful memories. Your love is still our guide. Although we cannot see you, you're always at our side.

Joyce and Michael Ford

DEATH NOTICE

ARENDT

CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER ARENDT
CAPT., U.S. Navy (Ret.)
1959-2023

Chris Arendt passed away on May 22 in his home in Annandale, VA.

Chris achieved his childhood dream of becoming a naval aviator, serving 27 years in the United States Navy, retiring with the rank of Captain. He served in the DoD for an additional 14 years before retiring last June. Chris was a selfless leader, mentor, and manager, and is remembered by his colleagues for his humility and empathy, qualities which he often demonstrated through an affected gruff demeanor and always with a twinkle in his eye.

Chris was dearly loved. He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Cindy; his two sons, Andrew (and wife Olivia) and Benjamin (and wife Gabrielle); and many loving family members and friends that he adored.

A funeral mass honoring Chris will be held on Saturday, May 27 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 5121 Woodland Way, Annandale at 2:30 p.m. Internment at Arlington National Cemetery will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances can be made to a charity of choice.

DEATH NOTICES
MONDAY- FRIDAY 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SATURDAY-SUNDAY 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

To place a notice, call:
202-334-4122
800-627-1150 ext 4-4122
EMAIL:
deathnotices@washpost.com

Email and faxes MUST include name, home address & home phone # of the responsible billing party.
Email deadline - 3 p.m. daily
Phone-In deadline
4 p.m. M-F
3 p.m. Sa-Su

CURRENT 2023 RATES:
(PER DAY)

MONDAY-SATURDAY
Black & White
1" - $155 (text only)
2" - $355 (text only)
3" - $505
4" - $555
5" - $700

SUNDAY
Black & White
1"- $185 (text only)
2" - $390 (text only)
3" - $560
4" - $590
5" - $765

6"+ for ALL Black & White notices
$155 each additional inch Mon - Sat
$185 each additional inch Sunday

MONDAY-SATURDAY
Color
3" - $650
4" - $700
5" - $855

SUNDAY
Color
3" - $685
4" - $785
5" - $955

6"+ for ALL color notices
$260 each additional inch Mon - Sat
$290 each additional inch Sunday

Notices with photos begin at 3"
(All photos add 2" to your notice.)

ALL NOTICES MUST BE PREPAID

MEMORIAL PLAQUES:
All notices over 2" include complimentary memorial plaque

Additional plaques start at $26 each and may be ordered.

All Paid Death Notices appear on our website through www.legacy.com

LEGACY.COM
Included in all death notices
Optional for In Memoriams

PLEASE NOTE:

Notices must be placed via phone or email. Photos must be emailed. You can no longer place notices, drop off photos and make payment in person. Payment must be made via phone with debit/credit card.

The Washington Post

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To be seen in the Funeral Services Directory, please call paid Death Notices at 202-334-4122.

The Washington Post

DEATH NOTICE

WILSON

BARBARA JEAN WHITE WILSON

Barbara Jean White Wilson of Potomac, Maryland, passed away on Friday, May 12, 2023. A beloved wife, mother, and grandmother. She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert Alfonzo White, Jr. and Gertrude Gray White of Birmingham, Alabama. She graduated at the age of sixteen from Ullman High School, where she met her future husband. Barbara continued her education at Tennessee State University, where she received a Bachelor of Science. She also attended Meharry Medical College for Medical Technology training. Later she received an MBA, from Southern Illinois University. Working in healthcare for over 30 years, she retired as the Administrative Director of Pathology at Sibley Memorial Hospital. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Isaac B. Wilson Jr., and two children, Isaac B. Wilson III (wife Lynette) and Lisa Peterson (husband Jonathan). She is the proud grandmother of five grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews. Her service will be held May 30, 2023, at the Zion Baptist Church, 4850 Blagden Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20011. The viewing is 10 a.m. followed by the service at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers or other acts of kindness please make all contributions to Meharry Medical College In Memory of Barbara J. White Wilson.

When the need arises, let families find you in the Funeral Services Directory.

To be seen in the Funeral Services Directory, please call paid Death Notices at 202-334-4122.

The Washington Post

THE WEATHER

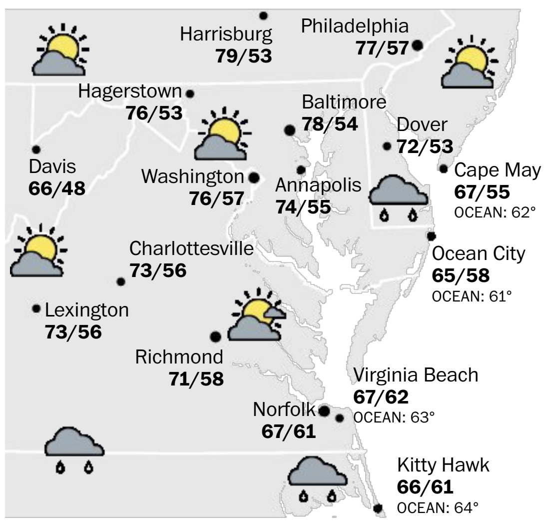
WASHINGTONPOST.COM/WEATHER · TWITTER: @CAPITALWEATHER · FACEBOOK.COM/CAPITALWEATHER

Another gorgeous day

We continue our run of beautiful weather. Clouds are probably more frequent than in recent days, but they may be mainly high-level and scattered. Temperatures head for the mid- and upper 70s for highs. Winds from the north gradually turn to come from the east with time. They blow around 10 mph, with gusts to 20 mph.

Today	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Partly sunny	Shower, breezy	Showers	Showers	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny
76° 57°	73° 59°	70° 59°	71° 60°	77° 64°	87° 67°
FEELS*: 78°	FEELS: 71°	FEELS: 68°	FEELS: 69°	FEELS: 81°	FEELS: 92°
CHNCE PRECIP: 0%	P: 40%	P: 95%	P: 60%	P: 20%	P: 10%
WIND: E 8–16 mph	W: ENE 10–20 mph	W: NE 7–14 mph	W: ENE 8–16 mph	W: E 6–12 mph	W: SW 4–8 mph
HUMIDITY: Low	H: Low	H: Moderate	H: Moderate	H: Moderate	H: Moderate

REGION



Pollen: High
Grass High
Trees High
Weeds Low
Mold Moderate

Air Quality: Good
Dominant cause: Ozone

UV: Extreme
11 out of 11+

Blue Ridge: Today, mostly cloudy, a shower in the afternoon; cool. High 52 to 59. Winds east-northeast 8–16 mph. Tonight, periods of rain. Low 48 to 52. Winds east-northeast 10–20 mph. Sunday, a shower. High 54 to 58. Winds east-northeast 8–16 mph.

Atlantic beaches: Today, mostly cloudy, breezy; a little afternoon rain in the south. High 65 to 69. Winds east-northeast 12–25 mph. Tonight, periods of rain, except dry in the north. Low 52 to 61. Winds east-northeast 10–20 mph.

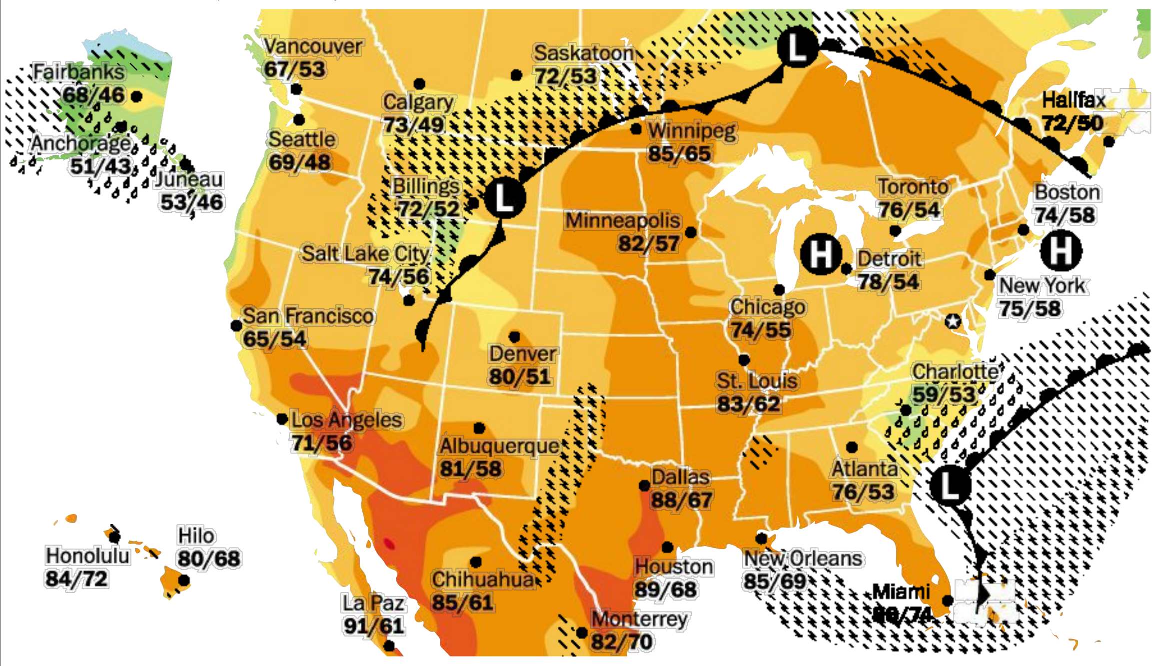
Waterways: *Upper Potomac River*: Today, clouds, limited sun. Wind east-northeast 7–14 knots. Waves 1–3 feet. Visibility clear. • *Lower Potomac and Chesapeake Bay*: Today, mostly cloudy. Wind northeast 8–16 knots. Waves 1–3 feet on the Lower Potomac; 3–5 feet on the Chesapeake Bay.• *River Stages*: The stage at Little Falls will be around 3.20 feet today, falling to 3.10 Sunday. Flood stage at Little Falls is 10 feet.

Today's tides (High tides in **Bold**)

Washington	**2:33 a.m.**	8:51 a.m.	**2:31 p.m.**	9:26 p.m.
Annapolis	5:29 a.m.	**11:40 a.m.**	6:15 p.m.	**none**
Ocean City	**1:42 a.m.**	8:12 a.m.	**2:12 p.m.**	8:17 p.m.
Norfolk	**3:29 a.m.**	10:02 a.m.	**4:10 p.m.**	10:22 p.m.
Point Lookout	1:17 a.m.	**7:46 a.m.**	2:33 p.m.	**8:36 p.m.**

NATION

Weather map features for noon today.



T-storms Rain Showers Snow Flurries Ice Cold Front Warm Front Stationary Front

<–10 –0s 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110+

Yesterday's National
High: Phoenix, AZ **95°**
Low: Grayling, MI **24°**
for the 48 contiguous states

World
High: Nawabshah, Pakistan **118°**
Low: Dewar Lakes, Canada **2°**
excludes Antarctica

NATIONAL	Today	Tomorrow
Albany, NY	81/53/s	88/56/s
Albuquerque	81/58/s	82/59/pc
Anchorage	51/43/r	55/42/c
Atlanta	76/53/pc	77/58/pc
Austin	87/65/pc	86/67/pc
Baltimore	78/54/pc	75/59/c
Billings, MT	72/52/t	76/54/t
Birmingham	80/57/pc	77/56/pc
Bismarck, ND	85/62/pc	78/62/t
Boise	77/53/pc	78/58/pc
Boston	74/58/s	84/61/s
Buffalo	77/52/s	79/54/s
Burlington, VT	82/55/s	88/57/s
Charleston, SC	65/58/r	73/56/c
Charleston, WV	73/53/c	65/54/c
Charlotte	59/53/r	64/57/r
Cheyenne, WY	69/47/t	73/48/t
Chicago	74/55/s	78/58/pc
Cincinnati	76/58/pc	69/58/c
Cleveland	74/55/s	76/58/pc
Dallas	88/67/c	85/68/c
Denver	80/51/t	76/51/s
Des Moines	80/55/s	84/61/pc
Detroit	78/54/s	81/56/pc
El Paso	90/67/s	90/67/c
Fairbanks, AK	68/46/pc	68/48/c
Fargo, ND	86/60/s	88/63/pc
Hartford, CT	81/50/s	84/55/s
Honolulu	84/72/pc	83/74/pc
Houston	89/68/pc	89/71/pc
Indianapolis	80/58/pc	76/59/pc
Jackson, MS	81/61/t	86/57/s
Jacksonville, FL	76/53/pc	84/60/pc
Kansas City, MO	81/56/c	84/63/s
Las Vegas	93/73/s	94/74/s
Little Rock	85/61/pc	85/62/s
Los Angeles	71/56/pc	68/59/pc
Louisville	79/60/pc	70/59/c
Memphis	80/62/t	82/60/s
Miami	86/74/t	88/74/t
Milwaukee	70/53/s	72/53/pc
Minneapolis	82/57/s	81/61/s
Nashville	82/56/pc	66/56/pc
New Orleans	85/69/t	87/71/pc
New York City	75/58/s	76/60/pc
Norfolk	67/61/r	70/64/r
Oklahoma City	82/63/c	80/64/t
Omaha	84/56/s	86/63/pc
Orlando	84/65/pc	85/68/t
Philadelphia	77/57/pc	78/58/pc
Phoenix	97/72/s	98/71/s
Pittsburgh	77/54/s	76/57/pc
Portland, ME	75/51/s	81/59/s
Portland, OR	75/53/c	75/53/c
Providence, RI	76/53/s	79/56/s
Raleigh, NC	60/57/r	70/60/sh
Reno, NV	75/55/t	73/54/t
Richmond	71/58/c	67/60/r
Sacramento	77/54/pc	72/53/s
St. Louis	83/62/pc	82/63/pc
St. Thomas, VI	88/78/sh	88/78/sh
Salt Lake City	74/56/t	78/60/c
San Diego	67/60/pc	67/60/c
San Francisco	65/54/pc	62/55/pc
San Juan, PR	91/76/sh	88/76/t
Seattle	69/48/c	71/50/pc
Spokane, WA	72/55/pc	78/56/pc
Syracuse	77/51/s	81/54/s
Tampa	86/69/s	86/72/s
Wichita	83/62/pc	80/63/t

WORLD	Today	Tomorrow
Addis Ababa	72/57/sh	72/57/sh
Amsterdam	69/50/s	68/47/pc
Athens	80/65/pc	79/63/pc
Auckland	64/58/c	65/59/c
Baghdad	102/76/pc	105/80/c
Bangkok	101/80/t	99/79/t
Beijing	73/61/sh	84/68/c
Berlin	69/45/s	74/51/pc
Bogota	67/49/r	68/49/c
Brussels	71/48/s	72/48/pc
Buenos Aires	60/47/pc	56/49/pc
Cairo	96/76/pc	89/71/pc
Caracas	76/64/t	77/64/t
Copenhagen	63/49/s	63/47/pc
Dakar	83/75/c	85/76/s
Dublin	66/48/pc	59/45/c
Edinburgh	63/42/pc	58/43/c
Frankfurt	76/50/s	77/54/s
Geneva	77/55/s	76/53/t
Ham., Bermuda	76/71/r	80/71/t
Helsinki	62/41/c	63/45/pc
Ho Chi Minh City	93/77/t	88/76/t
Hong Kong	89/81/t	89/80/sh
Islamabad	91/69/s	94/70/c
Istanbul	75/60/pc	71/61/c
Jerusalem	92/68/pc	81/64/pc
Johannesburg	68/49/c	70/48/pc
Kabul	79/55/s	78/58/s
Kingston, Jam.	88/80/t	88/79/t
Kolkata	93/78/pc	93/79/t
Kyiv	74/53/t	71/47/s
Lagos	89/78/t	87/77/r
Lima	76/69/c	76/68/c
Lisbon	73/58/t	71/56/c
London	72/48/s	69/47/pc
Madrid	68/55/t	69/55/t
Manila	92/80/sh	93/82/c
Mexico City	82/55/pc	77/56/sh
Montreal	81/57/s	83/59/s
Moscow	71/46/r	59/48/r
Mumbai	95/85/pc	95/85/pc
Nairobi	76/59/pc	75/59/sh
New Delhi	93/75/t	98/77/pc
Oslo	66/46/pc	66/41/pc
Ottawa	81/53/s	82/58/s
Paris	76/55/s	78/56/s
Prague	67/44/s	72/47/s
Rio de Janeiro	80/68/pc	79/71/pc
Riyadh	107/80/s	107/85/s
Rome	79/58/s	77/58/s
San Salvador	88/70/r	85/69/r
Santiago	70/41/pc	64/46/c
Sarajevo	69/57/t	70/55/t
Seoul	71/66/sh	71/65/r
Shanghai	81/72/pc	92/73/s
Singapore	88/79/t	88/80/t
Stockholm	67/52/pc	64/42/sh
Sydney	66/45/s	64/51/c
Taipei City	90/73/c	92/77/pc
Tehran	91/71/s	93/77/pc
Tokyo	76/66/pc	76/66/pc
Toronto	76/54/s	79/57/s
Vienna	70/49/s	74/52/s
Warsaw	68/44/s	73/49/s

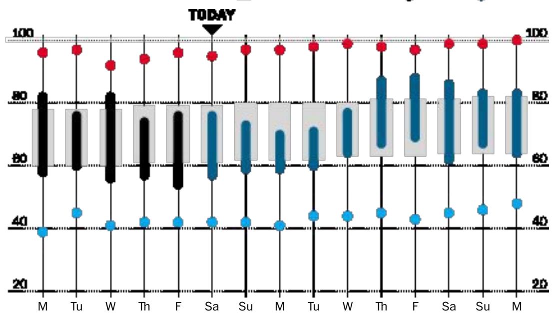
Key: **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **r**-rain, **sh**- showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice

Sources: **AccuWeather.com**; US Army Centralized Allergen Extract Lab (pollen data); airnow.gov (air quality data); National Weather Service

* AccuWeather's **RealFeel Temperature®** combines over a dozen factors for an accurate measure of how the conditions really "feel."

OFFICIAL RECORD

Temperatures

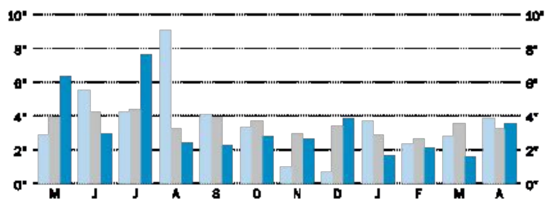


Statistics through 5 p.m. Friday

	National	Dulles	BWI
High	**76°** 3:46 p.m.	**76°** 3:00 p.m.	**75°** 5:00 p.m.
Low	**54°** 4:48 a.m.	**43°** 3:11 a.m.	**49°** 5:00 a.m.
Normal	79°/61°	77°/56°	78°/56°
Record high	96° 1880	92° 2021	94° 2021
Record low	42° 1899	38° 1967	41° 1967

Difference from 30-yr. avg. (National): this month: **–2.0°** yr. to date: **+3.7°**

Precipitation



	National	Dulles	BWI
Past 24 hours	0.00"	0.00"	0.00"
Total this month	0.43"	1.04"	0.55"
Normal	3.31"	3.95"	3.21"
Total this year	9.31"	9.54"	10.02"
Normal	15.50"	16.47"	16.59"

Moon Phases

May 27	June 3	June 10	June 18
First Quarter	Full	Last Quarter	New

Solar system

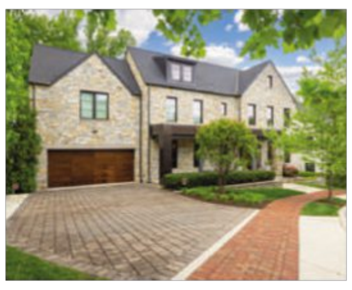
	Rise	Set
Sun	5:47 a.m.	8:24 p.m.
Moon	12:46 p.m.	2:01 a.m.
Venus	8:52 a.m.	11:52 p.m.
Mars	10:00 a.m.	12:29 a.m.
Jupiter	4:11 a.m.	5:31 p.m.
Saturn	1:56 a.m.	12:54 p.m.

WASHINGTON FINE PROPERTIES

202.944.5000

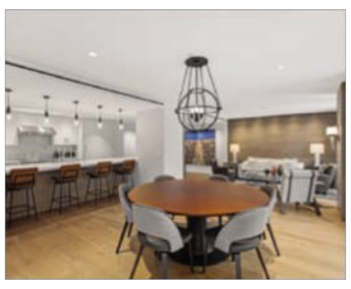
WFP.COM

GEORGETOWN $7,995,000
1644 Avon Pl. NW, Washington, DC
Eileen McGrath 202-253-2226

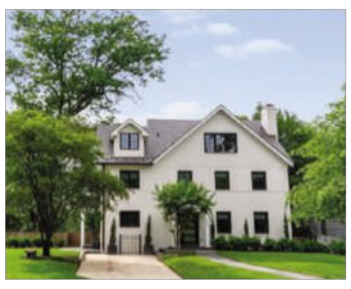

BERKLEY $7,900,000
1930 Foxview Cir. NW, Washington, DC
Nancy Taylor Bubes 202-386-7813
The Nancy Taylor Bubes Group

AVENEL $6,895,000
9837 Avenel Farm Dr., Potomac, MD
Marsha Schuman 301-943-9731
Betsy Schuman Dodek 301-996-8700

FOREST HILLS $4,995,000
2323 Porter St. NW, Washington, DC
Ethan Drath 202-258-5120
The Nancy Taylor Bubes Group


WEST END $4,950,000
1155 23rd St. NW, #5E, Washington, DC
Ben Roth 202-465-9636
Lucy Blundon 301-661-7808

CLEVELAND PARK $4,150,000
3306 Highland Pl. NW, Washington, DC
Margot Wilson 202-549-2100


CHEVY CHASE VILLAGE $3,995,000
5500 Park St., Chevy Chase, MD
Liz Lavette Shorb 301-785-6300

KALORAMA TRIANGLE $3,550,000
2323 20th St. NW, Washington, DC
Matt Ackland 202-320-5227
Nancy Taylor Bubes 202-386-7813

BRADLEY FARMS $3,100,000
9706 Logan Dr., Potomac, MD
Anne Killeen 301-706-0067

COMING SOON
WOODLEY PARK $2,850,000
3105 Woodley Rd. NW, Washington, DC
Margot Wilson 202-549-2100

PALISADES $2,499,000
5306 Carolina Pl. NW, Washington, DC
Ben Roth 202-465-9636
Lauren Pillsbury 301-213-9230

BRADLEY FARMS $2,195,000
9029 Bronson Dr., Potomac, MD
Ben Roth 202-465-9636
Sassy Jacobs 202-276-5449

LOGAN CIRCLE $1,795,000
1413 P St. NW #302, Washington, DC
Jamie Peva 202-258-5050
Craig Davitian 202-333-2225

LAKE NORMANDY ESTATES $1,695,000
9111 Cherbourg Dr., Potomac, MD
Marsha Schuman 301-943-9731
Betsy Schuman Dodek 301-996-8700

UNDER CONTRACT
SUGAR MILL MEADOW $1,650,000
1348 Lancia Dr., McLean, VA
Marianne Prendergast 703-626-7500
Will Prendergast 703-434-2711

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
GEORGETOWN $1,595,000
2726 Dumbarton St. NW, Washington, DC
Nancy Taylor Bubes 202-386-7813
The Nancy Taylor Bubes Group

CHEVY CHASE $1,590,000
8300 Twin Forks Ln., Chevy Chase, MD
Alyssa Crilley 301-325-0079

UNDER CONTRACT
CAPITOL HILL $1,550,000
1309 1/2 D St. SE, Washington, DC
Kira Epstein Begal 240-899-8577

OPEN SUNDAY 11-1
CAPITOL HILL $1,250,000
629 3rd St. NE, Washington, DC
Mary Saltzman 202-579-4662

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3
KALORAMA $1,175,000
2341 Ashmead Pl. NW #2, Washington, DC
Cynthia Howar 202-297-6000

DUPONT CIRCLE $1,150,000
1745 N St. NW #214, Washington, DC
Anne Stevenson 704-607-5847
The Nancy Taylor Bubes Group

LOGAN CIRCLE $899,000
1322 Rhode Island Ave. NW #7, WDC
Matt Cheney 202-465-0707

CLARKSBURG HEIGHTS $585,000
22404 Brick Haven Way, Clarksburg, MD
Meg Percesepe 240-441-8434
Alison Shutt 301-219-7671

BASEBALL DISTRICT $12,289/mo
1000 S Capitol St. SE #PH158, WDC
Matt Cheney 202-465-0707

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STYLE
SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023 · SECTION C
EZ RE

MACALL B. POLAY/HBO

MACALL B. POLAY/HBO

CLAUDETTE BARIUS/HBO

Who's the best at being the worst on 'Succession'?

BY ASHLEY FETTERS MALOY

Every episode of HBO's "Succession" poses two questions: 1) Who's winning in the rat race to lead Waystar Royco; and 2) Who's the worst, most evil, most hateful person on the show?

On Sunday evening, the fate of the Waystar Royco corporation and its leadership will be revealed (one would hope) — and, no doubt, some characters will sink to new moral lows. But before we get there, let's take the long view: Who will be remembered as the *worst* of the worst, overall?

We asked two philosophy professors, a business-ethics specialist and an heiress turned philanthropist to weigh in.

Logan "Boar on the Floor" Roy

Kate Moran, a professor of philosophy at Brandeis who specializes in the work of Immanuel Kant, took a two-pronged approach to the question of which Waystar Royco Machiavelli is the ultimate villain. First, she assessed whether a character's behavior was simply selfish or something worse. Then, she asked whether the character has been shown to take actual pleasure in being cruel. "That is, they don't just treat others as mere means, as Kant would say, because it serves their interests," Moran says, "but they also derive some *satisfaction* from treating people this way."

SEE 'SUCCESSION' ON C2

DAVID RUSSELL/HBO

Clockwise from top left, "Succession" characters Gerri Kellman (J. Smith-Cameron), Logan Roy (Brian Cox), Roman Roy (Kieran Culkin), Kendall Roy (Jeremy Strong), Shiv Roy (Sarah Snook) and Tom Wambsgans (Matthew Macfadyen).

CLAUDETTE BARIUS/HBO

GRAEME HUNTER/HBO

ESSAY

Pomp and circumstance and parenting

BY MARY LAURA PHILPOTT

Parents of seniors, welcome to celebration season. Whether your kid is heading to college, starting a job, taking a gap year or whatever else awaits, this is a big moment. For you, I mean.

To those of you feeling only gratitude and relief upon reaching this milestone: Way to go! Feel free to mingle while I have a quick word with everyone else.

To those who remain: Don't be embarrassed if you've cried today (or for the past month). Pay no mind to cynics who ask, "Would you rather they *weren't* graduating?" Of course you're proud of your kids. You want them to grow up. But emotions are neither simple nor binary. No matter what kind of parent you've been — attached, detached, tiger mom, baseball dad — the dynamic with your child changes now, forever. It is not shameful to be swept upside down at the prospect of this upcoming separation.

I have two kids: a son who graduated

SEE ESSAY ON C2

Kissinger made it to 100. Some wish he hadn't.

BY MARK YARM

Henry Kissinger, who served as national security adviser and secretary of state under Presidents Richard M. Nixon and Gerald Ford, turned 100 today, and to mark the occasion, he recently sat down for an interview with CBS "Sunday Morning" senior contributor Ted Koppel. The segment was largely friendly, save for a testy exchange midway through. "There are people at our broadcast who are questioning the legitimacy of even doing an interview with you," Koppel said. "They feel that strongly about what they consider, I'll put it in language they would use, your criminality."

"That's a reflection of their ignorance," Kissinger replied. Koppel brought up Kissinger's role in the U.S. bombing campaign in Cambodia, which ran from 1969 to 1973, killing perhaps as many as 150,000 civilians and hastening the Cambodian government's overthrow by the genocidal Khmer Rouge. After some back and forth, Kissinger said, "This is a program you're doing because I'm gonna be 100 years old. And you're picking a topic of something that happened 60 years ago. You have to know that it was a necessary step. Now, the younger generation feels that if they can raise their emotions, they don't have

ILLUSTRATION BY ANNA LEFKOWITZ/THE WASHINGTON POST; AP; ISTOCK

to think. If they think, they won't ask that question."

Kissinger's centennial has been greeted by the laudatory op-eds an elder statesman might expect — his biographer Niall Ferguson argues that "events over the past decade … have brought us back, with a series of sobering jolts, to Kissinger's world." But the younger generation — or at least, the left-leaning among them — is indeed letting its own thoughts (and, yes, emotions) be known on the internet. There, making light of Kissinger's eventual death — and remarkable longevity — has been a popular meme for years.

There are several novelty Twitter accounts that provide updates on whether Kissinger is still drawing breath, and the

SEE KISSINGER ON C3

THEATER REVIEW

A 'Sweeney Todd' drained of its blood

BY PETER MARKS

The song is called "Epiphany" for a reason. In "Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street," it's the turning point for grieving, aggrieved Sweeney, when he decides that one act of revenge won't be enough, that the only way to slake his thirst is to murder the world.

The moment is unalloyed madness. "I'm alive at last, and I'm full of joy!" he sings, lingering on the last word of Stephen Sondheim's marvelous lyric. But Nathaniel Stampley, the Sweeney Todd of Signature Theatre's listless revival, is not a dispenser of chills — he's merely chilly. The fire in the belly of Mrs. Lovett's macabre oven doesn't extend to his. We're left to ponder a character who seems to have time on his hands, rather than blood.

Sondheim and librettist Hugh Wheeler conceived 1979's "Sweeney Todd" as a conveyor of radical disturbance — an English penny dreadful set to a score

SEE THEATER REVIEW ON C4

The best of the worst on 'Succession'?

'SUCCESSION' FROM **C1**

A handful of characters seem to find power in inflicting pain on others, such as Roman (teasing the groundskeeper's kid with a million-dollar bet in the pilot, for example), Tom (see: Greg) and Shiv (see: Tom). But, for Moran, the worst character is obvious. While the others have occasional redeeming qualities, Logan "abuses his children and takes pleasure in demeaning others," she says, "and I really can't think of a scene where we see the slightest flicker of empathy or concern for anything but himself."

Gerri "How Does It Serve My Interests?" Kellman

Brent Turman, a Texas-based trial attorney who also serves as outside general counsel for companies, has been teaching a course since last year called "Ethics Lessons from HBO's Succession" to bar associations and law firms around the country. It's an ethics course, but it also highlights how some of Logan's negotiation strategies — the less despicable ones, Turman notes — might be applicable in courtroom settings.

Turman didn't name Logan the show's worst character. Instead, he takes particular offense to his right-hand woman at Waystar Royco, whose decades of institutional knowledge at the company have curdled into something like complicity. "Gerri was the backbone of the institution," Turman says. "She has a pretty good idea of where the bodies are buried."

As general counsel, Gerri is probably well aware that she owes certain ethical duties to Waystar Royco, Turman points out. It's an American Bar Association rule, for example, that]when an attorney represents an organization, the attorney's decisions must be made in the *organization's* best interest, not that of its executives or founders. Still, Gerri manages to tip the scales in her own favor anyway.

"She determines which outcome in a business situation would benefit her personally, then reverse-engineers an argument to support her desired outcome," Turman says. "She ensures that she's able to 'wet her beak,' as Logan would say. She knows better, but she chooses to reduce herself to the level of the Roys."

Tom "Break Some Greggs" Wambsgans

The polite Midwesterner from a nice-enough family who got himself entangled, through marriage, in the Roy family may strike some as harmless. But it's precisely this lack of psychological damage that leads Stephen Neale, a professor of philosophy and linguistics at the CUNY Graduate Center in Manhattan, to believe he's the show's most morally rotten character.

The show makes clear, Neale says, that Logan Roy and his kids are as awful as they are because they've weathered trauma, abuse and manipulation. Tom, on the other hand, "wasn't born into it, dumped into it, like Roman, Kendall and Shiv," Neale says. "He *chose* to join this mob."

And Tom readily absorbs his in-laws' ugliest traits: "Anyone he fears he sucks up to. Anyone he doesn't fear he s---s on. He's abusive. He's cruel, he's a bully. Especially to poor old hapless Greg," Neale says.

Socrates, Neale adds, believed in teaching younger generations to think independently. Tom does precisely the opposite. "He takes a perverse pleasure and pride in corrupting Greg, and training Greg to be like himself," Neale says. "For a philosopher, that's dreadful."

Shiv "My Dad Was Flexible, I'm Flexible" Roy

Shiv begins the series as the black-sheep daughter whose career in progressive politics is in tension with her family's conservative media empire. Four seasons later, having tossed her politics career aside in favor of trying to finagle a powerful role in said that empire, she closes out the series battling her brothers for control.

For Abigail Disney — a documentary producer, philanthropist and granddaughter of Disney cofounder Roy Disney — the idea of an heiress putting her family's company's interests ahead of the greater good is particularly repulsive.

"The thing about Shiv," Disney says, "is that she tricks you into thinking that she might just be the renegade, the independent thinker you'd have to be to land anywhere near decency in that exceptionally horrible context."

Memorably unsettling was Shiv's heel turn in the episode titled "DC," where she persuades a victim of sexual misconduct from testifying against Waystar. "I simply cannot let Shiv off the hook for the way she reaches into the faux feminist's bag of tricks when it benefits her, while kicking her sisters to the curb without a second thought when they present any kind of challenge to her climb," Disney says.

Kendall "Who Says I Never Killed Anyone?" Roy

Kendall's tragic attempts to simultaneously match his father's cutthroat successes while also cutting his own, more morally upstanding path give the series some of its most compelling dramatic moments. But they also create hypocrisy within Kendall, who can swing wildly between shouting "F--- the patriarchy!" at a public event and threatening his ex-wife when she wants to whisk their kids upstate for their safety.

Many of the characters, Kendall included, "have a tendency to try to dress up their selfishness as a kind of virtue," Moran says.

Disney, meanwhile, notes Kendall's capacity for "gymnastic feats of moral flexibility."

Also, lest we forget, Kendall is the only Roy known to be directly responsible another person's death.

Roman "A Night of Good TV" Roy

Roman, callous and shockingly vulgar in virtually any and all situations, earns the dubious distinction from Neale of being "almost solipsist." "He's his own audience. He doesn't actually care about anybody else," Neale says. "All his jokes are there for his own amusement." It would be easy to use Roman as justification for a sort of nihilism toward the Roys: If a whole mean family causes harm to themselves and one another, "Just let them f--- themselves over, who cares," Neale says bluntly.

"America Decides," however, zoomed out and gave audiences a rare look at the real-world ripple effects of the Roys' selfishness and cruelty. In the context of a contested presidential election, Roman's desire to pull little stunts for his own amusement end up having potentially huge social consequences.

"It's Roman having his jollies," Neale says. "He wants to see if he can pull this off." It's both true to his character, the CUNY professor says, "and it is evil."

Post-grad tips for parents

ESSAY FROM **C1**

from high school two years ago and a daughter who will do the same next year. On the first day my son no longer lived in our house, I opened the dryer and found a pair of his socks. While I'd never derived my identity from parenthood — nor romanticized every minute of raising children — all I could think then was, *I will miss this*. Never again would we be a four-person unit under one roof. The sob hit me fast; I sat on the floor and cried so hard my dogs ran upstairs to investigate.

I don't know whether I could have prevented that breakdown, but I learned an important lesson for the next time: Into that teenager-size hole in your heart, you must put something exciting for you, and you should plan it now.

What have you always wanted to do or learn? Where would you like to go? What's something you can look forward to that will take your focus off your child's absence? You could jet off to Spain, sure, but you could also enroll in a free class to learn a new language or how to make tapas. You could train for a marathon. You could volunteer at an animal shelter or join a kayaking group. This is about spending time and attention, not necessarily money.

Scientists call this a "planned breather." Having a distraction for set blocks of time can keep you from becoming so overwhelmed by emotion that you avoid your feelings completely. That's the denial stage of grief — which I believe comes right after the sobbing-over-socks stage — and you can get stuck in it.

I made the mistake of thinking I could bury myself in work. I work from home, and no deadline could divert my eyes from the empty bedroom down the hall.

One coping mechanism was watching soothing British television. When I had no new episodes of "The Great Pottery Throw Down" left, I went looking for a beginner pottery and sculpture class. Soon I was going to a studio twice a week to turn little balls of clay into ceramic animals.

My grief became lighter. The pottery studio does not accommodate multitasking. I couldn't stop to scroll through baby pictures on my phone while humming "Sunrise, Sunset," or my clay would dry out. I had to concentrate, and with that came pockets of relief that stretched into a new sense of equilibrium. I saw my life stretching out before me, full of possibility. I stopped feeling like, "It's all over," and starting wondering, "What's next?"

I only wished I'd signed up sooner.

That's why I'm telling you this now. If we've learned anything from trying to sign up for summer camps only to find every spot taken by midwinter, it's to plan ahead. While the kids are at their graduation parties, start brainstorming. Your planned breather will remind your brain how to function when it's not being overstimulated by emotion. And you'll want your brain to be functioning, because there are more big feelings coming.

One last suggestion: On departure day, take a minute before leaving the house to tidy up. Throw away the tags from the new suitcases and check the dryer for stray socks. Maybe you'll still break down, but do yourself the favor of removing some of the prompts. Coming back home to find a half-full juice glass on the kitchen counter will only punch you with the realization that your kid was *just here* and is now gone.

You're beginning a new era of your own. It could look like anything you imagine. Congratulations — and happy graduation.

What does it mean when ex says 'fun' was gone?

Carolyn Hax

Adapted from an online discussion.

Dear Carolyn: Until a few weeks ago, I was in what I would have called a fantastic, healthy, mature relationship. Then my partner broke up with me, telling me it was because he was no longer finding our relationship "fun." This might sound naive or crazy, but I had not realized that we were in the relationship for "fun" at this point. We are both in our 40s, and although I know that doesn't exactly make us old farts, I thought we were on the same page about valuing something different than we did 20 years ago — companionship, stability, intellectual stimulation, travel — which, by the way, I thought was pretty fun.

He didn't say so, but I am worried that what he meant was that I myself am not fun. This was something I hadn't been self-conscious about before, but now I am. I'm feeling a bit shaken in my understanding of who I am right now and what I bring to the table in a (distant) future relationship.

— Brokenhearted

NICK GALIFIANAKIS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Brokenhearted: "No fun" could be nothing more serious than having the newness wear off. It always does, and it's always a crossroads: Is it time to settle into something deeper or seek more novelty?

What he chose might say more about him than anything else. Some people crave novelty; some don't.

It's still worth a self-audit to see whether maybe you can lighten up somewhere, try more new things, take fewer things personally, loosen some expectations, challenge some old preconceptions, see yourself differently. Anything we can do not to fossilize is to our own benefits in the end. Live your own movie-makeover montage, just for you.

But that's just standard operating procedure for heartbreak: Mine the experience for insight, make adjustments, file it away in the past.

A reader's thought:

• Maybe you are no fun. For HIM. Are you fun enough for you? If yes, then what you need is somebody for whom that's enough (and vice versa, of course). No one else need apply. You are not defective because he wanted something different.

Dear Carolyn: How hard should I keep working to keep a connection with my youngest daughter? She is 28 and has a college degree, a job in a pizza shop and a weed habit. She lives with a guy I find controlling and abusive. But I know she contributes to the fights and is physical, too. She sometimes fears she is an alcoholic and calls when drunk and high, crying, saying she needs to go to rehab. I tell her she should. But she doesn't. The crisis passes.

She has called me every few months in terrible shape asking whether she can come to my house because she is leaving the guy. Of course I say yes. She always goes back, because she says she loves him. He is a conspiracy theorist, uneducated and unemployed, living off my daughter. She has become a conspiracy theorist and challenges me and her older siblings constantly.

She has mental health problems. She refuses to take meds or get her anxiety treated. I'm exhausted.

— Anonymous

Anonymous: Understandably so. I'm sorry. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (*nami.org*) has a program called "Family-to-Family" that comes highly recommended for "family, significant others and friends of people with mental health conditions." It's free, eight sessions long and can help settle your mind with productive ways to respond to your daughter's struggles. Take care.

Write to Carolyn Hax at *tellme@washpost.com*.

the GUIDE to the Lively Arts

SHOW NAME		DATES & TIMES	DESCRIPTION	DETAILS	PRICE	ADDITIONAL
THEATRE						
The Little Theatre of Alexandria	**"The Nacirema Society's 100th Anniversary"**	June 3-24, 2023 Wed-Sat: 8:00pm Sun: 3:00pm	A sparkling comedy of manners, this play's clever and sharp dialogue pokes fun at a black social group's preparation for is annual cottilion.	**The Little Theatre of Alexandria 703-683-0496 www.thelittletheatre.com**	$29-$34	
MUSIC - CONCERTS						
THE U.S. ARMY BAND PERSHING'S OWN	**Salute the Sunset** Concert Band	Saturday May 27 7PM	This "Salute to Service" program was crafted with special intention to honor those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. We celebrate this holiday weekend acknowledging the freedoms we enjoy thanks to their selfless service.	**Plaza Stage 150 National Plaza National Harbor, MD usarmyband.com**	FREE	Find full schedule at usarmyband.com
CHORALIS GRETCHEN KUHRMANN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR	**The Voice of Triumph**	Sunday, May 28, 2023 5:00 PM	Featuring music commemorating triumph over adversity in connection with Memorial Day including Vaughan Williams' Dona Nobis Pacem and two works by Cecilia McDowall: *Angel of the Battlefield* and *Every Day Wonders: The Girl from Aleppo*. Composer Cecilia McDowall will be in attendance.	**National Presbyterian Church 4101 Nebraska Ave. NW Washington, DC 20016**	Tickets: $5–50	For tickets and more information, visit choralis.org
THE APOLLO ORCHESTRA	**The Apollo Orchestra Presents Conductor David Chan** with Soprano Hera Hyesang Park	Sunday, June 4, 2023 at 4 PM	The Apollo Orchestra presents Mozart Overture to "The Magic Flute, Selections from operas by Rossini, Mozart, and Mascagni, Schubert Symphony No. 8 "Unfinished", and Mendelssohn Overture to "Midsummer Nights Dream." FREE ADMISSION - Advanced reservations highly recommended!	**Church of the Resurrection 3315 Greencastle Rd. Burtonsville, MD 20866 https://apollo-june-4-concert.eventbrite.com**	Free	Free parking
OPERA						
Bel Cantanti Opera	**Franz Lehar King of Operetta**	FRI May 26 at 7:30 pm SAT May 27 at 7:30 pm SUN May 28 at 3:00 pm	A gala Bel Cantanti Opera concert featuring the works of Austro-Hungarian composer Franz Lehar, with a chamber orchestra and featuring the Four Seasons Dancers. The May 28 concert will also be livestreamed.	**Bender Jewish Community Center, 6125 Montrose Rd, Rockville, MD www.belcantanti.com**	$40	Tickets online and at the door

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• Monday in Style. deadline: Friday, 12 noon • Tuesday in Style. deadline: Mon., 12 noon • Wednesday in Style. deadline: Tues., 12 noon
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TELEVISION

WEEKEND TV HIGHLIGHTS

MACALL POLAY/HBO

Succession (HBO on Sunday at 9) Before the final board vote on the Waystar-GoJo deal, Kendall (Jeremy Strong) and Shiv attempt to rally their sides and find where a battered Roman lies in the mix in the series finale.

SATURDAY SPECIALS

Sarah Silverman: Someone You Love (HBO at 10:15) Sarah Silverman's second HBO comedy special features new material taped at the Wilbur Theater in Boston.

MOVIES

The Love Club: Sydney's Journey (Hallmark at 8) Former athlete Sydney still isn't over her college ex who broke her heart years ago, but her new running buddy may help her move on from her former love.

Who Killed Our Father? (Lifetime at 8) After her foster sister dies, a woman takes a DNA test to find her biological father and sister only for her father to be murdered and her to find herself in more danger than she could have possibly imagined.

SUNDAY

60 Minutes (CBS at 7) This episode focuses on the Radio Free Europe headquarters in Prague, Mozambique's national park Gorongosa and music producer Rick Rubin.

The Real Housewives of Atlanta (Bravo at 8) Kenya invites the ladies to Alabama so they can watch her surprise performance at the Magic City Classic football game halftime show; after Sanya's assistant/brother-in-law quits, she struggles with the blurred lines she's created between family and work.

Fear the Walking Dead (AMC at 9) Mo finds herself in over her head as she hunts to prove PADRE's true intentions.

The Blacklist (NBC at 10) The task force investigates the case of a missing newlywed; Red offers to assist a cartel leader; Siya visits someone from her mother's past.

MINISERIES

Ghosts of Beirut (Sunday at 10:05) The CIA appoints William Buckley as the Beirut station chief; Chet Riley discovers an image of Imad as Imad escalates his attacks; the U.S. is forced to withdraw from Lebanon, which leaves Imad the most powerful player in the Middle East.

FINALE

Barry (HBO at 10:30) The story of a former Marine-turned-assassin-turned-amateur actor comes to an end.

— Olivia McCormack

BROADCAST CHANNELS

5/27/23	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
4.1 WRC (NBC)	♦ Sports	♦ 1st Look	♦ Byron Allen Presents: The Comedy & Music Superfest				♦ Password		♦ **News**	♦ SNL
4.2 WRC (IND)	Emergency!		Columbo				Columbo			
5.1 WTTG (Fox)	♦ **MLB Baseball** Boston Red Sox at Arizona Diamondbacks (Live)						♦ **Fox 5 News at 10**		♦ **Fox 5 News**	♦ Special
7.1 WJLA (ABC)	♦ Wheel	♦ Jeopardy!	♦ **NHL Hockey** Dallas Stars at Vegas Golden Knights (Live)						♦ **News**	(:35) ♦ Home
9.1 WUSA (CBS)	♦ Retirement	♦ Relief	♦ CSI: Vegas		♦ Blue Bloods		♦ 48 Hours		♦ **9 News**	♦ Magnum
14.1 WFDC (UNI)	♦ **Vecinos**	♦ **Vecinos**	♦ **Vecinos**	♦ **Vecinos**	♦ Movie: **Alpha** ★★★ (2018)				♦ Nosotr.	♦ **Noticiero**
20.1 WDCA (MNTV)	♦ **Fox 5 News On the Plus**		♦ FamFeud	♦ Family Feud	♦ Mod Fam	♦ Mod Fam	♦ Movie: Naked Singularity (2021)			
22.1 WMPT (PBS)	♦ Project Fire	♦ Project Fire	♦ Breath of Freedom			♦ The Seabees on Iwo Jima		♦ Hamilton	♦ Islands of Wonder	
26.1 WETA (PBS)	♦ Academic	♦ Academic	♦ Asian Americans		♦ American Masters				♦ Academic	♦ Academic
32.1 WHUT (PBS)	♦ **Weekend**	♦ Journey	♦ Afropop: Cultural		♦ Breath of Freedom			♦ Fly Boys		♦ Why-Moment
50.1 WDCW (CW)	♦ Sheldon	♦ Sheldon	♦ Masters of	♦ Masters of	♦ Weird	♦ Weird	♦ **DC News Now**		♦ 9-1-1	
66.1 WPXW (ION)	♦ Law & Order: SVU		♦ Law & Order: SVU		♦ Law & Order: SVU		♦ Law & Order: SVU		♦ Law & Order: SVU	

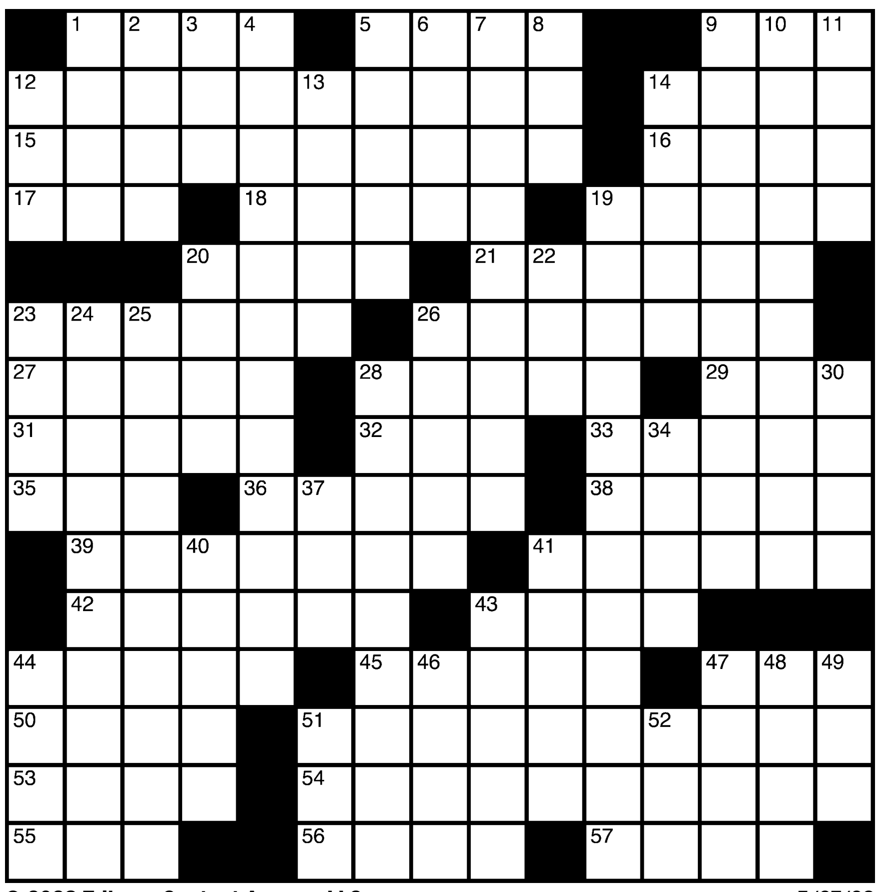
CABLE CHANNELS

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
A&E	The First 48		The First 48		The First 48		The First 48		(:05) The First 48	
AMC	Movie: The Shawshank Redemption ★★★★ (1994)						Movie: The Guardian ★★ (2006)			
Animal Planet	Swamp Wars		Impossible Croc Rescue		The Bond		Extinct or Alive		Extinct or Alive	
BET	(5:30) Movie: Rush Hour 2		Movie: Rush Hour 3 ★ (2007)					Movie: The Hitman's Bodyguard ★★		
Bravo	(6:30) Movie: The Mummy ★★ (1999)				Movie: The Mummy ★★ (1999)					Movie
Cartoon Network	King/Hill	King/Hill	King/Hill	King/Hill	Rick	Rick	Rick	American	American	American
CNN	**CNN Newsroom**		Heaven's Gate		Heaven's Gate		Heaven's Gate		Heaven's Gate	
Comedy Central	(6:30) Movie: Grown Ups ★ (2010)			Movie: Pixels ★ (2015)					Movie: Billy Madison ★	
Discovery	Naked and Afraid XL		Naked and Afraid XL		Naked and Afraid XL		Naked and Afraid XL			
Disney	Raven	Raven	Movie: The Jungle Book ★★★ (2016)			Saturdays	Saturdays	(:40) Marvel's	(:05) Kiff	Molly McGee
E!	Las Vegas		Las Vegas		Las Vegas		Las Vegas		Las Vegas	
ESPN	**Softball** NCAA Tournament, Super Regional: Teams TBA				**Softball** NCAA Tournament, Super Regional: Teams TBA				**SportsCenter** (Live)	
ESPN2	**Softball** NCAA Tournament, Super Regional: Teams TBA				30 for 30 Bullies of Baltimore				Player 54: XFL Dream	
Food Network	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive
Fox News	Gutfeld!		**One Nation**		To Be Announced		**Lawrence Jones**		One Nation	
Freeform	(6:30) Movie: Cars 3 ★★ (2017)				Movie: Zootopia ★★★ (2016)					Movie
FX	(5:30) Movie: Deadpool		Movie: Deadpool 2 ★★★ (2018)					Movie: Deadpool 2 ★★★ (2018)		
Hallmark	(6:00) Movie: Paris, Wine...		Movie: The Love Club: Sydney's Journey (2023) (P)				Movie: Caribbean Summer (2022)			
Hallmark M&M	Movie: Signed, Sealed, Delivered: One in a Million				Movie: Signed, Sealed, Delivered: Lost Without You				Murder, She Wrote	
HBO	(5:50) Movie: Black Adam		Movie: Shazam! Fury of the Gods ★★ (2023) (P)				(:15) **Sarah Silverman**		(:15) Movie: The Heat ★★	
HGTV	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	**Hunters**	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters
History	Ancient Aliens		**Ancient Aliens: Declassified**							
Lifetime	(6:00) Movie: The Girl Wh...		Movie: Who Killed Our Father? (2023) (P)				(:05) Movie: How to Live Your Best Death (2022) (P)			
MASN	2023	Sports Stars	Fight Sports: World Class Championship Boxing				Life in Between Gates		Wall to Wall Baseball	
MSNBC	**American Voices** (Live)		**Ayman** (Live)		**Ayman** (Live)		Leguizamo Does America		Ayman	
MTV	Movie	Movie: Just Go With It ★★ (2011)						(:25) Movie: 21 Jump Street ★★★ (2012)		
Nat'l Geographic	To Catch a Smuggler: Brazil		To Catch a Smuggler: Brazil		**Smuggler**	**Smuggler**	**To Catch a Smuggler**		To Catch a Smuggler	
NBC SportsNet WA	(6:30) **FanDuel** (Live)		**Fairways of Life**		Fairways of Life		Greatest	Fairways of Life		Pure Outdoor
Nickelodeon	Movie: Despicable Me 2 ★★★ (2013)				Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
NWSN	**NewsNation Prime** (Live)		**NewsNation Prime** (Live)		**NewsNation Prime** (Live)		NewsNation Prime		NewsNation Prime	
PARMT	(6:50) Yellowstone		(:55) Yellowstone		(:55) Yellowstone		Yellowstone		Yellowstone	
Syfy	(:55) Movie: Jurassic Park III ★★ (2001)				Movie: Jurassic World ★★ (2015)					Movie
TBS	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	I Survived Bear Grylls	
TCM	(6:15) Movie: Back to Ba...		Movie: The Steel Helmet ★★★ (1951)			(:45) Movie: Pork Chop Hill ★★★ (1959)				Movie
TLC	Match Me Abroad		**Love in Paradise**		**Love in Paradise**		**Love in Paradise**		**Love in Paradise**	
TNT	Movie	**NBA Tip-Off** (Live)		**NBA Basketball** Boston Celtics at Miami Heat (Live)					**Inside the NBA** (Live)	
Travel	Most Terrifying Places		Most Terrifying Places		Most Terrifying Places		Most Terrifying Places		Most Terrifying Places	
TruTV	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers
TV Land	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King
TV One	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single
USA Network	(5:30) Movie: Harry Potter & the Prisone...			Movie: Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire ★★★ (2005)						
VH1	Movie: Friday After Next ★ (2002)				Movie: Boo! A Madea Halloween ★★ (2016)					Movie
WNC8	**World News**	Home	20/20				**WJLA News**	WJLA News	Attkisson	Armstrong

LEGEND: Bold indicates new or live programs ♦ High Definition Movie Ratings (from TMS) ★★★★ Excellent ★★★ Good ★★ Fair ★ Poor No stars: not rated

LA TIMES CROSSWORD

By Tom Pepper & C.C. Burnikel



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ACROSS

1 Up state?
5 Had kittens
9 Big hits, for short
12 Shows emotion
14 Mary Oliver, e.g.
15 Welcome message to a waiter
16 Goddess whose temple on Palatine Hill glowed at night
17 Wreath that may be stored in a fridge
18 "Got everything?"
19 Benched way too long
20 Look that makes waves?
21 Places to find temples and bridges
23 One of Sue Bird's WNBA record 3,234
26 Hardest to see
27 Runs across
28 Paris native
29 Shepherd's greeting
31 Shoegaze band Yo La __
32 North Dakota Natives known as the Arikara
33 Cory Booker, once
35 Med. condition exhibited by Hannah on "Girls"
36 Puts on the line
38 Apt rhyme for "quake"
39 Like a golfer who usually shoots around par
41 Gave title to
42 Churlish
43 __ Paragon: large shopping mall in Bangkok
44 Jazz combo set
45 En passant pieces
47 Gives clearance
50 Fenty Beauty founder, to fans
51 Coffee break exchange
53 Decides
54 Haphazardly
55 Sue Bird's WNBA career 6,803: Abbr.
56 Autumn stone
57 Bit of trouble

DOWN

1 Fat with a very high smoke point
2 Golfer Thompson
3 Std. that starts every March
4 Places for hot shots
5 Nonstarters
6 Interpretation
7 Basic solutions
8 "Power" role for Rotimi
9 Soup du jour alternative
10 Complex protest?
11 Temporary reprieve
12 NBC show with more than 950 eps
13 Vigilant
14 Column of smoke
19 Wet periods
20 Notify
22 Molecule studied by Joan A. Steitz
23 Concerning
24 Unsolicited screenplay
25 Beach volleyball spots
26 Nail biters
28 Exercise that works the upper body
30 Network signal
34 Noise before a break-in
37 Tags someone on Twitter, e.g.
40 "Groundhog Day" director
41 Shabby
43 Balloon
44 Go down
46 Pasta __ Norma
47 Capital with ferry service to Copenhagen
48 Scottish wedding garb
49 Plant, for one
51 __ Jima
52 Small intake

FRIDAY'S LA TIMES SOLUTION

S	T	A	T		C	O	A	S	T		T	H	A	T
P	I	T	A		U	N	S	E	E		V	O	L	E
A	M	O	K		S	T	I	L	L		I	M	A	N
R	E	P	E	A	T	O	F	F	E	N	D	E	R	S
			R	I	O				P	O	O	R	M	E
R	E	F	O	R	M	S	C	H	O	O	L			
O	R	E	O	S		T	H	O	R	N		P	E	T
M	I	T	T		P	A	I	N	T		P	E	L	T
P	E	A		M	E	N	L	O		C	U	R	L	Y
			R	E	P	A	I	R	M	A	N	U	A	L
D	R	E	A	M	T				A	S	K			
R	E	C	R	E	A	T	I	O	N	A	R	E	A	S
A	L	O	E		L	I	C	I	T		O	T	T	O
P	A	L	S		K	N	O	L	L		C	R	A	W
E	X	I	T		S	E	N	S	E		K	E	D	S

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Social media awaits statesman's death

KISSINGER FROM C1

JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

Henry Kissinger attends a luncheon with French President Emmanuel Macron, Vice President Harris and Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Dec. 1 at the State Department in Washington.

death of a major public figure often makes Kissinger's name trend on the platform. The general sentiment — why not Kissinger? — is perhaps best captured in a visual meme portraying the grim reaper scooping up a person in an arcade claw machine; one iteration is captioned "Queen Elizabeth II?! Is Henry Kissinger even in this thing?"

The passage from the late celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain's 2001 book "A Cook's Tour," that begins "Once you've been to Cambodia, you'll never stop wanting to beat Henry Kissinger to death with your bare hands," is also frequently shared on Twitter and other social networks. (In addition, Kissinger has been accused — perhaps most famously in the late Christopher Hitchens' fiery 2001 book "The Trial of Henry Kissinger" — of war crimes in Vietnam, East Timor and elsewhere.)

When a Vox writer tweeted about the Economic Club of New York's 100th birthday celebration for Kissinger on Tuesday, asking "What would you ask Dr. Kissinger?," the responses were withering. "Can he feel the flames of hell gently tickling his toes yet?" read one. On Thursday, Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.) chimed in with "Which war crime weighs on your conscience more?" (The Wiley Agency, the literary firm that represents Kissinger, did not respond to emails seeking comment on the meme.)

And then there's the Kissinger Death Tontine, an online charity death pool thought up by a group of Bay Area socialists over drinks in 2018, whose prize is a "selection of liquors from countries where Kissinger has overthrown the democratically elected leader."

Shanti Singh, a 32-year-old tenant organizer from San Francisco who was unapologetically involved in the creation of Kissinger Death Tontine, has some theories as to why Kissinger remains the object of such intense fascination on the left. "He's one of the most decorated war criminals in 20th century history," she said, citing his 1973 Nobel Peace Prize win. "I think he captures the imagination because there were absolutely no consequences for him. If anything, he's elevated by both parties. We saw in the 2016 Democratic primary, Hillary Clinton said, 'He's a really good friend of mine,' and Bernie Sanders was like, 'Are you sure you want to brag about that?'"

Alex Turvy, a Tulane University PhD student who researches memes, said that the dark jokes have a strong emotional component. "Kissinger's firm refusal to die represents something bigger to people, like that there are evil forces bigger than you that you don't have power over," Turvy said. "And the memes are a way of sort of releasing some of that pent-up energy."

He explained that very online Gen Zers and millennials, who weren't even close to being born during the Nixon administration, have "a lot of comfort with irreverence and joking about someone's death that doesn't play as well offline. You know, if you repeat some of these jokes to your mom, whether she likes Kissinger or not, it's not going to seem as funny."

Millennial conservative commentator Ben Shapiro once tweeted that those who wish death upon Kissinger are "simply a mob in search of a victim." But even among young progressives, not everyone is comfortable with the fixation on Kissinger's demise. Take Sam Weinberg, the 22-year-old executive director of the D.C.-based Path to Progress, a Gen Z-focused think tank. "Henry Kissinger is not someone whose legacy is admirable — far from it," Weinberg said. "But at the same time, I feel like as progressives and leftists, we're supposed to be compassionate and loving. We're supposed to be tolerant and support restorative justice and oppose the death penalty. So when I see people online spending so much time basically just wishing for one person's death — it's strange, it's off-putting, it's a little bit gross."

Discourse Blog editor Jack Mirkinson, a 35-year-old from New York who writes an occasional obituary series called "Henry Kissinger Is Right There," dismissed the idea that his work is offensive, given the amount "of blood on [Kissinger's] hands." He added, "I would consider the things that he has done and the crimes that he's guilty of to be a little more tasteless than people making jokes about him and about the end of his life."

The 26-year-old Peruvian law student (who spoke on the condition of anonymity) behind the small Twitter account Is Henry Kissinger Dead? was even more blunt: "I think Americans in particular are very susceptible to this very stupid idea that is bad to celebrate the death of an evil person," he wrote in a Twitter direct message.

One thing that these observers can agree on is that when Kissinger does die, it will be a raucous day on Twitter for his detractors. Miles Klee, a 38-year-old Los Angeles-based culture writer for Rolling Stone who has written on why Kissinger always trends on Twitter, anticipates "a ton of memes and dunks and funny Photoshops," even if "it won't be a totally joyous thing, because he did live to be a hundred years old."

Klee sees the inevitable Twitter reaction to Kissinger's death as a kind of counterprogramming to predictably evenhanded mainstream media obituaries. Greg Grandin, a Pulitzer Prize-winning Yale University history professor and the author of 2015's "Kissinger's Shadow," concurred. Kissinger's actions, he said, "will be dismissed as controversial, but you know, he'll be held up as a great statesperson. You can already [predict] the New York Times obituary."

When the big day finally arrives, the creator of Is Henry Kissinger Dead? said he would simply tweet "Yes" and "enjoy the jubilation." He also noted that Kissinger had outlived several other Twitter accounts reporting on the current state of his existence.

Without the gore, 'Sweeney Todd' loses its edge

THEATER REVIEW FROM C1

equal parts haunting and hilarious. But if you tamp down the horror, as director Sarna Lapine seems intent on doing, you dilute the visceral shock value of one of the greatest musicals ever written. The genre is grand guignol, a theatrical embrace of depravity. On this occasion, unfortunately, it's only petite guignol.

Have directors decided that an audience in 2023 can't abide the skin-crawling machinations that are the grotesque heart of the show? Do we have to find Sweeney … *relatable*? Just as in director Thomas Kail's sexier, juicier Broadway revival of "Sweeney Todd" with Josh Groban and Annaleigh Ashford, the emphasis is on a regular-seeming barber who's had it up to here — oh and by the way, starts slitting his customer's throats. The kind of guy about whom surprised neighbors say after his arrest, "He kept to himself."

Well, it's a take, I guess. Signature's particularly tepid results are disappointing because director Lapine — the niece of frequent Sondheim creative partner James Lapine — has displayed great instincts with the canon before, particularly Broadway's 2017 "Sunday in the Park With George," with Ashford and Jake Gyllenhaal. ("Sweeney Todd" was the first Sondheim show Signature ever did, in 1991, and produced it again in 2010.) Perhaps the intimacy of Signature's 270-seat main stage, the Max, made the company a little squeamish about "Sweeney's" graphic nature: The murders here are dramatized halfheartedly, by Stampley pulling bits of string or sparkly fabric out of the victims' necks.

The bland concept — extending to designer Mikiko Suzuki MacAdams's assortment of odd and cumbersome set pieces — is especially disconcerting, in view of some stronger contributions. The most rewarding are those by Bryonha Marie, as an embracingly amoral Mrs. Lovett, and Katie Mariko Murray, giving consummate comic charm to Sweeney's daughter, Joanna.

The voices are all up to the score's demands, as is the 15-member orchestra under Jon Kalbfleisch's baton. And Rayanne Gonzales as the Beggar Woman, Christopher Michael Richardson as the slimy Beadle, Harrison Smith as man-child Tobias and Paul Scanlan as Joanna's rescuer, Anthony, all bring a passionate commitment to their roles.

Marie's Mrs. Lovett is a voluptuously joyful creation. The actress's relish for the character's sociopathic inclinations adds a helium to the proceedings that otherwise feels undersupplied. Costume designer Robert Perdziola does his part in illustrating Mrs. Lovett's dizzily misguided grab for respectability: Her delightfully crazy outfit in Act 2 — after her meat pies fit for a cannibal prove a sensation — looks like something a Trapp Family singer might pick out while drunk shopping.

"The Worst Pies in London," the syncopated culinary song that introduces Mrs. Lovett in Act 1, and "By the Sea," her certifiable Act 2 ballad of corrupted connubial bliss, are applause-meter high points of the evening. Marie and the character are aligned in a demented, carpe diem sort of way. As Joanna, Murray offers a heavenly delivery of "Green Finch and Linnet Bird" and "Kiss Me," the latter a duet, and ultimately a quartet. They stamp her once again as a divine Sondheim soprano. She showed herself similarly accomplished as Cinderella in Signature's recent "Into the Woods."

At other times, though, directorial choices severely bog the production down. "Johanna," the unsettlingly lascivious aria for covetous Judge Turpin, is sometimes cut from the show. It's included (bravely) here, but John Leslie Wolfe's Turpin seems perplexedly stranded center stage, groping for a way to contextualize the judge's self-loathing. "God, deliver me!" he sings, but is this penitential or maniacal?

More harmfully, "A Little Priest," an Act 1 finale for the ages, loses its way in the fussy staging. Rather than leave Sweeney and Mrs. Lovett to their own giddy devices, playing a priceless word game about the people they'll bake into their pies, Lapine and choreographer Alison Solomon add a cadre of ensemble members to the scene: They drag on body bags and affix them to hooks. The business is supposed to put flesh, if you will, on victims yet to be cooked. In practice, however, all it does is step on Sondheim's brilliant puns.

Tinkering with a perfect musical should be attempted with extreme caution, as Signature's spotty efforts illustrate. It's within one's rights to try to walk an audience in novel directions with this show. But on eggshells isn't one of them.

CHRISTOPHER MUELLER

Bryonha Marie as Mrs. Lovett and Nathaniel Stampley as Sweeney Todd in Signature Theatre's production of the Sondheim musical.

Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street, music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by Hugh Wheeler. Directed by Sarna Lapine. Set, Mikiko Suzuki MacAdams; costumes, Robert Perdziola; lighting, Jesse Belsky; sound, Eric Norris; music direction, Jon Kalbfleisch; choreography, Alison Solomon. With Ian McEuen, Lawrence Redmond, Adelina Mitchell, Chani Wereley. About 2 hours 50 minutes. Through July 9 at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. *sigtheatre.org*.

MOVIE DIRECTORY

(!) No Pass/No Discount Ticket

Saturday, May 27, 2023

www.washingtonpost.com/movies

DISTRICT

AMC Georgetown 14
3111 K Street N.W.
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 10:05-2:30-4:25-5:40-7:40-8:50-10:50-11:15
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) CC: 10:30
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 10:15-1:15-4:30-7:50-11:05
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 10:05-2:45-5:05-7:25-9:45
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 10:00-1:00-4:00-7:00-10:00
Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret. (PG-13) CC: 1:40-7:50
You Hurt My Feelings (R) CC: 12:00-2:20-4:45-7:10-10:25
Evil Dead Rise (R) CC: 8:30
Kandahar (R) CC: 5:10-8:00-10:45
About My Father (PG-13) CC: 10:30-12:50-3:05-5:20-7:40-9:55
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) CC: 9:30
The Little Mermaid: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG) CC: 12:00-3:00-6:00
The Machine (R) CC: 12:05-2:45-5:25-8:05-10:45
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 3D (PG-13) CC: 10:40-2:00-5:15
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 10:30-1:30-4:30-7:30-9:30
Fast X (PG-13) OC: 1:15
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) OC: 4:15
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) OC: 12:25
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 10:15-11:15-2:15-8:15
Evil Dead Rise (R) OC: 10:55
Kandahar (R) OC: 2:25
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC: 5:15

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema - DC Bryant Street
630 Rhode Island Ave NE
Fast X (PG-13) 11:10-3:00-6:45-10:40
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 10:45-2:30-6:15-10:10
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 7:45-10:35
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:30-3:15; 7:00-10:30; 11:00-12:30-2:15-2:45-4:15-6:00-6:30; 12:00; 7:30-8:00-10:00
Master Gardener (R) 11:00
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 12:15
You Hurt My Feelings (R) OC: 1:30; 10:20-4:30-7:20-10:20
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 9:30
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 4:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:30AM

Angelika Pop-Up at Union Market
550 Penn Street NE - Unit E
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:15-3:00-6:30-9:40
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:00-1:00-2:30-4:00-7:00-8:30-9:50; 5:30

Avalon Theatre
5612 Connecticut Avenue
Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret. (PG-13) 12:00-2:20-4:45-7:15
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 12:45-3:00-5:15-7:30

Landmark Atlantic Plumbing Cinema
807 V Street Northwest
Fast X (PG-13) 4:20-7:20-10:05
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 1:10-1:40-4:50-7:10-10:10
The Little Mermaid (PG) 12:30-1:00-2:00-3:30-4:00-4:30-5:00-6:30-7:00-8:00-8:30-9:10-9:45
Fast X (PG-13) 1:30

Landmark E Street Cinema
555 11th Street Northwest
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 12:45-4:00-7:15-9:35
Beau Is Afraid (R) 12:00-3:25-6:45-9:15
It Ain't Over (PG) 3:45-10:10
Joyland 12:30-3:00-7:00-9:35
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 12:00-1:00-2:15-6:30-7:30-9:45-10:15
BlackBerry (R) 12:45-3:45-7:25-10:00
Monica (R) 1:15-7:45
Master Gardener (R) 12:15-7:15-10:15
The Starling Girl (R) 3:00
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 3:15

Regal Gallery Place
701 Seventh Street Northwest
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:10-2:40-6:20-9:45
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 11:40-5:00-7:30-10:15
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:00-11:30-2:00-2:30-3:00-4:30-5:30-6:00-6:30-8:00-9:00-9:30-10:00
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 12:20-3:10-6:10-9:10
Kandahar (R) 12:50-6:50-9:50
About My Father (PG-13) 11:10-2:10-4:50-7:20-10:05
The Machine (R) 4:10-7:10-10:10
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 12:00-3:30-7:00-10:30
Fast X (PG-13) 11:20-12:30-1:30-2:55-4:20-6:40-7:40-9:20-10:20
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) OC: 2:20
Kandahar (R) OC: 3:50
The Machine (R) OC: 1:10
Fast X (PG-13) OC: 5:10
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC: 1:00

MARYLAND

AFI Silver Theatre Cultural Center
8633 Colesville Road
The Easy Life (Il Sorpasso) (NR) 6:45
Joyland 1:10-8:00
Taza, Son of Cochise (1954) (NR) 5:00
Daisies (Sedmikrasky) (NR) 10:30
Los olvidados (2016) (NR) 9:00
Vagabond (1985) with Lina Rodriguez (NR) 2:45
New York Cat Film Festival 3:45
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 11:00-1:00-3:00-5:05-7:10-9:15
Footlight Parade (1933) (NR) 11:05AM
The Adventures of Robin Hood (1938) (NR) 12:30

AMC Academy 8
6198 Greenbelt Road
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 10:10-1:20-4:30-7:40-8:45-10:20
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 10:45-1:30-4:20-7:20-10:10
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 11:10-2:00-5:00-7:50-10:40
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 10:00-10:45-1:00-1:45-4:00-4:45-7:00-10:00
Kandahar (R) CC: 10:20-1:10-4:10-7:10-10:50
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 11:30-2:30-5:30-8:30

AMC Annapolis Mall 11
1020 Annapolis Mall Road
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 9:00-10:10-1:20-4:30-7:40-10:30
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 9:20-10:40-2:30-3:45-6:00-7:05-9:20
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 9:10-11:30-1:50-4:10-6:40-9:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 9:00-10:00-11:00-12:40-1:10-2:10-4:20-5:20-7:30-10:40-11:30
You Hurt My Feelings (R) CC: 9:20-1:00-5:50-8:10-10:50
Evil Dead Rise (R) CC: 10:25-11:20
About My Father (PG-13) CC: 12:30-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:10
The Machine (R) CC: 10:30
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 3D (PG-13) CC: 11:40AM
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 12:10-3:20-6:30-9:40
Fast X (PG-13) 11:45-3:00-6:15-9:30
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC: 8:30
Evil Dead Rise (R) 9:00AM
About My Father (PG-13) 9:30AM
The Machine (R) 11:30-2:20-5:00-7:45

AMC Center Park 8
4001 Powder Mill Rd.
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 10:00-1:10-4:00-7:00-8:30-9:45
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 10:15-1:00-4:20-7:40-10:50
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 10:50-1:40-4:40-7:15-10:15
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 10:30-11:10-1:30-2:15-4:30-5:30-7:30-10:30
About My Father (PG-13) CC: 11:20-1:45-4:15-6:45-9:15
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 12:00-3:00-6:00-9:00

AMC Columbia 14
10300 Little Patuxent Parkway
The Land Before Time (G) 11:00AM
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 11:30-1:00-2:30-4:15-7:30
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) CC: 6:05
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 10:00-2:45-6:00-6:15-8:30-9:30
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 10:50-1:10-4:35-7:10-9:35
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 11:45-3:00-6:15-9:30
Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret. (PG-13) CC: 3:30
You Hurt My Feelings (R) CC: 11:50-4:50-7:20-9:50
Evil Dead Rise (R) CC: 2:45-9:50
Kandahar (R) CC: 11:55-3:10-6:20-9:50
About My Father (PG-13) CC: 11:40-2:10-5:10-7:30-9:40
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) CC: 10:15
The Little Mermaid: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG) CC: 12:45-4:00-7:15
The Machine (R) CC: 10:00-1:00-4:00-7:00-10:00
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 3D (PG-13) CC: 1:30-5:00
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 10:45-2:00-5:15-8:30
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 10:15-11:15-1:30-4:45-8:00
You Hurt My Feelings (R) OC: 2:20

AMC DINE-IN Rio Cinemas 18
9811 Washingtonian Center
The Land Before Time (G) 11:00AM
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 10:45-2:15-3:40-5:45-7:00-9:15-10:30
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) CC: 10:30
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 10:45-2:15-2:45-5:45-9:00-9:15
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 11:15-1:10-4:45-5:30-8:00-9:45-10:40
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 10:00-11:00-1:30-2:30-3:30-5:00-6:00-7:00-8:30-9:30
Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret. (PG-13) CC: 12:00-6:15
The Wrath of Becky (R) CC: 7:15
You Hurt My Feelings (R) CC: 11:15-1:45-4:15-6:45-9:15
Evil Dead Rise (R) CC: 8:20-11:00
Kandahar (R) CC: 10:15-4:15-7:15-10:30
About My Father (PG-13) CC: 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) CC: 4:00-11:00
The Little Mermaid: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG) CC: 12:30-7:30
The Kerala Story (Hindi) 1:30-4:45
The Super Mario Bros. Movie 3D (PG) CC: 2:00
The Machine (R) CC: 11:15-2:00-4:45-7:30-10:15
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 3D (PG-13) CC: 12:15-3:45-7:15-10:45
Book Club: The Next Chapter - Early Access Event (PG-13) CC: 10:40AM
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 10:30-2:00-5:30-9:00
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 10:30AM
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC: 12:00
Kandahar (R) OC: 1:15
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 11:30-3:00-6:30-10:00

AMC Loews St. Charles Town Ctr. 9
11115 Mall Circle
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 4:30-8:00
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 12:45-3:45-7:15-9:15
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 10:15-1:15-4:15-6:45-10:30
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 12:00-1:15-3:15-4:30-6:30-7:45-9:45
Evil Dead Rise (R) CC: 10:45AM
About My Father (PG-13) CC: 11:00-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15
The Machine (R) CC: 10:15-1:30-4:15-7:00-9:45
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 10:45-2:00-5:15-8:30
Fast X (PG-13) 11:45-3:00-6:15-9:30
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:15AM

AMC Magic Johnson Capital Center 12
800 Shoppers Way
The Land Before Time (G) 12:00
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 12:00-3:15-5:45-6:30-9:00-9:45
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 2:45-7:45
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) CC: 3:15
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 12:30-1:15-4:00-5:30-7:20-9:00-9:30
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 12:00-2:15-3:15-8:00-9:45
Evil Dead Rise (R) CC: 7:00-10:45
Kandahar (R) CC: 3:45-6:45-9:45
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) CC: 10:15
The Little Mermaid: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG) CC: 12:30-3:45-7:00
The Machine (R) CC: 4:30-7:15-10:00
The Super Mario Bros. Movie 3D (PG) CC: 12:15-5:15-10:20
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 1:00-4:15-7:30-10:40
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC: 4:45-6:30
Kandahar (R) OC: 12:45
The Machine (R) OC: 1:45

AMC Montgomery 16
7101 Democracy Boulevard
The Land Before Time (G) 11:00AM
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 10:00-11:45-1:30-3:15-5:00-6:45-8:30-10:15
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 11:15-12:15-2:45-3:45-6:15-7:15-9:45
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 11:45-2:15-4:45-7:30-10:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 10:00-12:00-12:30-1:15-2:15-3:15-3:45-4:30-5:30-6:30-7:00-7:45-8:45-9:45-10:15
Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret. (PG-13) CC: 10:05-7:30
It Ain't Over (PG) CC: 10:10
You Hurt My Feelings (R) CC: 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30
BlackBerry (R) CC: 4:00-10:00
Kandahar (R) CC: 10:15-1:15-4:15-6:15-9:15
About My Father (PG-13) CC: 10:45-3:25-5:45-8:05-10:25
The Machine (R) CC: 11:30-2:20-5:00-7:45-10:30
Book Club: The Next Chapter - Early Access Event (PG-13) CC: 7:05
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC: 11:00AM
About My Father (PG-13) OC: 1:05

Cinemark Egyptian 24 and XD
7000 Arundel Mills Circle
Fast X (PG-13) 9:20-9:55-10:25-10:35-11:30-12:50-1:25-2:05-3:10-4:15-4:55-5:35-6:40-7:50-8:25-9:00-9:05-10:10
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 9:25-10:20-11:45-12:55-1:50-3:15-4:25-5:20-6:45-7:55-10:30
The Little Mermaid (PG) XD: 9:15-3:45-7:00-10:15; 9:15-3:45-7:00-10:15; 9:45-1:00-4:15-7:30-10:45; 9:45-1:00-4:15-7:30-10:45; 10:45-2:00-5:15-8:30; 10:00-10:15-11:10-11:30-11:40-12:05-1:30-1:35-2:15-2:25-2:55-3:20-4:45-5:30-6:10-6:35-8:00-9:25-9:50
The Machine (R) 10:30-1:25-4:20-7:15-10:10
Fast X (PG-13) XD: 12:15-3:45-7:20-10:50
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) 7:05-10:55
The Little Mermaid (PG) XD: 12:30
Evil Dead Rise (R) 5:15-7:50-10:25
Face Off 6: The Ticket of Destiny (Lat Mat 6: Tm Ve Dinh Menh) 6:55
2018 (Malayalam) 9:10
Godday Godday Chaa 10:25
Mem Famous 9:25
#Mentoo 6:15
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 9:25-11:55-1:10-2:25-3:40-4:55-7:25-10:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) XD: 12:30
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 10:25-12:55-3:30-6:50-9:20
Kandahar (R) 10:40-4:50-7:45-10:45
About My Father (PG-13) 10:35-1:05-3:35-7:35-10:20

Cinépolis Gaithersburg
629 Center Point Way
Fast X (PG-13) 11:20-3:00-7:00-10:40
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 12:00-3:40-7:20-11:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:40-3:20-10:20
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 1:20-5:00-8:20
Kandahar (R) 11:00-2:40-6:20-9:40-11:00
About My Father (PG-13) 12:20-4:00-7:40
The Machine (R) 10:40-2:20-6:00-9:20
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 6:40
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:20-12:40-1:40-4:20-5:20-8:00-9:00

Landmark Bethesda Row Cinema
7235 Woodmont Avenue
Fast X (PG-13) 1:05-3:55-7:05-9:30
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 1:30-2:15-4:30-7:30-9:30
The Little Mermaid (PG) 1:00-2:00-3:00-4:00-5:00-6:15-7:00-8:00-9:00-9:55
Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret. (PG-13) 4:15
Chevalier (PG-13) 1:45-6:45
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 1:50-4:30-7:15-9:45
About My Father (PG-13) 1:00-5:15-7:20-10:00

Landmark at Annapolis Harbour Center
2474 Solomons Island Road Unit H-1
Fast X (PG-13) 1:30-4:30-7:30-9:30
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 1:00-2:15-4:10-5:30-7:20-9:15
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 1:40-4:00-7:00-9:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) 1:15-2:00-2:45-3:30-4:15-5:00-5:45-6:30-7:15-8:00-8:45-9:30
Book Club: The Next Chapter (PG-13) 1:05
The Machine (R) 1:20-3:45-7:00-10:00

Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 5:15-7:30
BlackBerry (R) 5:00
Master Gardener (R) 7:45

Phoenix Theatres Marlow 6
3899 Branch Avenue
Fast X (PG-13) 12:00-3:00-6:15-8:00-9:15
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:15-2:35-6:00-9:35
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 1:00-3:30-6:05-8:15
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:00-12:05-12:30-2:00-3:05-3:30-5:00-6:30-9:05-9:30
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 6:05

Regal Cinemas Majestic Stadium 20 & IMAX
900 Ellsworth Drive
Fast X (PG-13) 10:00-11:45-12:55-1:25-1:55-4:15-4:50-5:15-7:15-7:45-8:15-8:45-10:40-11:10
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) 10:10-6:15
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:40-12:40-3:05-4:10-6:40-7:20-7:40-10:10-10:40-11:10
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 10:35-1:10-3:45-6:20-8:55
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:00-10:40-11:00-11:50-12:05-1:20-2:00-2:20-3:10-4:00-4:40-5:20-6:30-8:00-8:40-9:50-10:50-11:15
Book Club: The Next Chapter (PG-13) 10:30AM
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 11:10-1:50-4:30-7:10-10:00
Evil Dead Rise (R) 2:25-10:05
Kandahar (R) 10:00-1:00-4:00-7:05-10:10
About My Father (PG-13) 11:30-2:05-4:45-7:15-9:55
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) 3:40-10:20
The Little Mermaid: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG) 12:20-7:00
The Machine (R) 10:20-1:15-4:20-7:20-10:15
Mem Famous 12:00-3:20-6:50-10:30
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 11:20-2:40-6:00-9:20
Fast X (PG-13) OC: 3:10

Regal Germantown
20000 Century Boulevard
Fast X (PG-13) 11:10-12:20-2:25-5:40-6:30-7:30-9:10-9:45
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:15-12:50-2:40-4:10-6:00-7:50-9:20
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:25
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:00-12:10-12:40-1:30-2:10-2:50-3:20-3:50-4:40-5:30-7:10-8:00-9:00-9:30
Kandahar (R) 11:20-2:20-5:20-8:40
About My Father (PG-13) 12:00-2:30-5:00-7:20-9:40
The Machine (R) 11:05-1:50-4:50-7:40
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 11:40-6:10
Fast X (PG-13) OC: 3:40

Regal Hyattsville Royale
6505 America Blvd.
Fast X (PG-13) 11:40-12:15-12:40-4:00-6:50-7:30-10:15
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) 8:20
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:30-2:50-4:30-6:30-10:00
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:10-9:40
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:00-12:00-12:30-1:00-3:10-3:40-4:20-5:20-6:20-8:00-8:30-9:30-10:10
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:20
Kandahar (R) 12:20-3:20-6:10-9:10
About My Father (PG-13) 11:10-1:50-4:10-7:20-9:50
The Machine (R) 11:20-2:10-5:00-7:50-10:30
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 2:00-7:00
Fast X (PG-13) OC: 3:00

Regal Laurel Towne Centre
14716 Baltimore Avenue
Fast X (PG-13) 11:40-12:40-3:10-4:10-5:30-6:45-7:45-9:00-10:20-11:15
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) 11:00
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 10:30-11:00-2:10-2:50-6:30-10:00
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 10:20AM
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:00-11:10-12:20-1:20-2:40-3:40-4:40-6:00-7:00-8:00-9:20-10:10-11:10
Kandahar (R) 12:00-3:00-9:20
About My Father (PG-13) 11:20-2:10-4:30-7:15-9:50
The Machine (R) 10:50-2:20-5:10-8:15-11:10
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 10:40-2:00-5:20-8:40

Regal Rockville Center
199 East Montgomery Avenue
Fast X (PG-13) 12:10-1:00-2:30-3:40-4:40-5:50-7:00-8:00-9:40-10:30
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 10:50-2:20-5:40-9:30
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 12:50-3:30-6:00-8:40
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:20-11:40-12:40-1:10-2:50-3:20-3:50-4:20-4:50-6:10-6:40-7:10-7:40-9:20-9:50-10:20-10:50
Book Club: The Next Chapter (PG-13) 10:40AM
Kandahar (R) 11:50-3:10-6:30-10:00
About My Father (PG-13) 11:20-1:50-4:30-6:50-9:10
The Machine (R) 10:30-1:20-4:20-7:20-10:10
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 1:40-8:10

Regal UA Snowden Square
9161 Commerce Center Drive
Fast X (PG-13) 11:30-2:50-6:20-9:40
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 10:30-11:40-2:10-3:00-5:40-6:30-9:00-9:50
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 10:40-1:20-4:10-6:40-9:10
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:20-11:50-12:20-1:00-1:30-3:30-4:00-4:30-5:00-6:10-6:50-7:20-7:50-8:40-9:20-10:10-10:40-11:10
Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret. (PG-13) 8:10-10:50
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 12:50-3:20-6:00
Kandahar (R) 12:40-3:50-7:00-10:00
About My Father (PG-13) 12:00-2:30-5:20-7:40-10:30
The Machine (R) 1:10-4:20-7:10-10:20
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 2:40
Fast X (PG-13) 1:40-5:10-8:30

Regal Waugh Chapel & IMAX
1419 South Main Chapel Way
Fast X (PG-13) 9:40-10:20-1:00-1:40-4:20-5:00-7:40-8:30-10:50
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 9:10-10:10-1:30-3:50-5:10-7:10-8:50-10:30
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 9:20-11:40-2:10-4:30-6:50-9:30
The Little Mermaid (PG) 9:30-10:00-11:20-1:20-4:10-4:40-6:00-7:30-8:00-9:20-10:40
Kandahar (R) 9:50-12:55-4:00-6:55-10:00
About My Father (PG-13) 9:40-12:40-3:00-5:20-7:40-10:10
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) 10:20
The Little Mermaid: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG) 9:00-12:20-3:40-7:00
The Machine (R) 10:30-1:25-4:25-7:20-10:10
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 2:40
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC: 12:50

Regal Westview & IMAX
5243 Buckeystown Pike
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 12:10-3:50-7:40-11:00
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 10:30-1:00-3:30-6:30-9:20
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:00-10:40-11:50-1:20-2:00-3:10-4:40-5:20-6:40-8:00-8:40-9:50-11:10
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) 9:40
The Little Mermaid: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG) 11:20-2:40-6:20
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 12:20-3:40-7:10-10:40
Fast X (PG-13) 11:40-12:40-3:00-6:50-7:30-10:10-10:50; 4:00

Xscape Theatres Brandywine 14
7710 Matapeake Business Drive
Fast X (PG-13) 10:10-12:50-1:30-4:05-4:40-7:10-7:50-9:10-10:30
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) 10:45-6:15
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:20-12:05-3:10-3:50-6:30-7:30-9:50
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 10:35-1:05-3:25-6:35-9:05
The Little Mermaid (PG) 9:40-11:00-11:40-12:00-12:20-12:40-2:00-2:40-3:00-3:20-3:40-5:00-5:40-6:00-6:20-6:40-8:40-9:00-9:20-9:40
Evil Dead Rise (R) 2:25-9:45
Kandahar (R) 11:30-2:10-4:50-7:40-10:40
The Machine (R) 10:30-1:10-4:10-7:00-10:00
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 10:20-1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20

iPic Pike & Rose
11830 Grand Park Avenue
Fast X (PG-13) (!) 11:00-2:30-7:15-10:45
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:30-3:00-6:45-10:30
The Little Mermaid (PG) (!) 10:45-11:15-12:00-12:30-2:15-2:45-3:30-4:00-6:00-6:15-6:30-7:00-9:45-10:00-10:15-10:30
Kandahar (R) (!) 1:00-4:15-7:30-11:00
About My Father (PG-13) (!) 1:45-4:30-7:45-10:45

VIRGINIA

AMC Courthouse Plaza 8
2150 Clarendon Blvd.
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 12:50-4:10-7:30-11:00
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 12:10-3:40-7:10-10:30
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 11:20-1:40-4:00-6:30-9:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 11:00-12:40-3:50-5:10-7:00-10:10
You Hurt My Feelings (R) CC: 12:40-3:10-5:30-8:00-10:20
The Machine (R) CC: 11:25-2:10-5:00-7:40-10:25
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 11:50-3:00-6:10-9:20
Fast X (PG-13) 10:40
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 8:15
The Little Mermaid (PG) 2:05

AMC Hoffman Center 22
206 Swamp Fox Rd.
The Land Before Time (G) 11:00AM
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC: 2:00
Kandahar (R) 11:45-2:45-6:00-9:00
The Machine (R) OC: 4:30
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 12:00-1:15-3:15-4:45-6:30-8:15-9:45
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) CC: 11:00-2:45-6:30-10:15
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 12:00-1:00-2:00-4:30-5:30-8:00-9:00
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 11:00-1:30-4:15-7:00-9:30
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 11:30-2:45-6:00-9:30
Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret. (PG-13) CC: 1:00-6:30
The Wrath of Becky (R) CC: 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:00
You Hurt My Feelings (R) CC: 11:30-4:30-7:00-9:30
BlackBerry (R) CC: 1:30-7:15
Evil Dead Rise (R) CC: 11:00-4:30-10:15
Master Gardener (R) 11:15AM
About My Father (PG-13) CC: 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) CC: 10:30
The Little Mermaid: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG) CC: 12:45-4:00-7:15
The Machine (R) CC: 11:00-1:45-7:15-10:00
Nefarious (R) CC: 3:45-9:15
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 3D (PG-13) CC: 3:30-7:00-10:30
Book Club: The Next Chapter - Early Access Event (PG-13) CC: 11:15AM
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 1:10-4:15-7:30-10:30
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 11:00-11:15-1:30-2:10-2:45-4:45-5:15-6:00-8:00-8:30-9:10
You Hurt My Feelings (R) OC: 2:00

AMC Potomac Mills 18
2700 Potomac Mills Circle
The Land Before Time (G) 11:00AM
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 10:20-1:00-1:30-4:30-5:00-6:50-7:45-8:30-11:00
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) CC: 1:50-6:00
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 12:40-4:10-7:40-10:30-11:00
Hypnotic (R) CC: 10:10AM
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 11:00-1:30-4:00-6:30-9:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 10:00-1:15-4:30-7:45-11:00
The Wrath of Becky (R) CC: 3:00-5:20-7:45-10:20
You Hurt My Feelings (R) CC: 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30
Evil Dead Rise (R) CC: 4:45-7:15-9:50
Kandahar (R) CC: 12:00-3:00-6:00-9:00
About My Father (PG-13) CC: 11:50-2:15-4:45-7:15-9:45
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) CC: 4:00-10:30
The Little Mermaid: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG) CC: 12:45-7:15
The Machine (R) CC: 11:15-2:00-7:30-10:15
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 3D (PG-13) CC: 11:30-3:00-6:30
Book Club: The Next Chapter - Early Access Event (PG-13) CC: 12:20
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 12:15-3:30-6:45-10:00
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 10:00AM
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 10:30-11:45-1:45-3:00-5:00-6:15-8:15-9:30-9:45
The Machine (R) OC: 4:45
The Little Mermaid (PG) 3:45; 10:15

AMC Shirlington 7
2772 South Randolph St.
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 12:20-3:40-7:00-7:50-10:20-11:00
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 4:00-7:30
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 11:25-12:10-1:40-3:20-4:50-6:30-8:00-9:40-11:05
Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret. (PG-13) CC: 2:30-5:10
About My Father (PG-13) CC: 11:20-12:40-3:00-5:20-7:40-10:00
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 3D (PG-13) CC: 12:30-10:50
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 1:00-4:10-7:20-10:30

AMC Tysons Corner 16
7850e Tysons Corner Center
The Land Before Time (G) 11:00AM
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 9:55AM
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 12:45-2:35-4:00-5:50-7:15-9:15-10:35; 11:20AM
You Hurt My Feelings (R) OC: 12:40
Kandahar (R) OC: 1:20
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 10:40-1:55-5:05-8:25
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 10:20-11:25-1:40-2:45-5:15-6:20-8:35-9:50
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) CC: 10:50-2:40-6:30-10:20
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 11:10-1:35-2:50-5:20-6:25-8:55-9:55
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 10:15-3:40-6:15
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 10:00
You Hurt My Feelings (R) CC: 10:05-3:10-5:40-8:20-10:50
Evil Dead Rise (R) CC: 10:10-1:30
Kandahar (R) CC: 10:25-4:15-7:10-10:05
About My Father (PG-13) CC: 10:30-12:55-3:20-5:55-8:20-10:45
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) CC: 4:25-10:55
The Little Mermaid: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG) CC: 10:00-1:15-7:40
The Machine (R) CC: 10:55-1:50-4:45-7:35-10:25
The Super Mario Bros. Movie 3D (PG) CC: 12:50-9:05
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 3D (PG-13) CC: 7:30-11:00
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 12:15-3:30-6:45

AMC Worldgate 9
13025 Worldgate Drive
Fast X (PG-13) CC: 10:45-12:00-1:30-3:15-6:30-7:15-9:45
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC: 1:15-4:30-6:15-9:30
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) CC: 10:45-1:30-4:45-7:45-9:15
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC: 10:30-11:30-1:00-2:00-4:00-5:00-7:00-8:00-10:00
About My Father (PG-13) CC: 10:45-4:15-6:45-10:30
The Machine (R) CC: 11:00-1:45-3:00-4:45-8:20-10:15
Book Club: The Next Chapter - Early Access Event (PG-13) CC: 10:30AM
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) CC: 12:00-3:00-6:00-9:00

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema - One Loudoun
20575 East Hampton Plaza
Fast X (PG-13) 12:15-3:45-7:30-9:35
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:00-1:30-2:45-5:30-6:30-10:15
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 9:15
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:45-12:45-1:45-2:20-3:20-4:20-5:15-6:00; 7:00-8:00-8:45-10:35
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 11:00AM
The Machine (R) 1:00-4:15-7:15-10:20
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 9:35
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 1:15-4:00-6:45
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:45AM

Angelika Film Center Mosaic
2911 District Ave
Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (PG) 11:00AM
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 10:30-12:30-3:45-7:05-10:15
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 10:25-1:55-4:15-6:30-8:45
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:45-11:45-12:45-3:00-4:00-5:00-6:00-7:00-8:00-9:00-10:00
Master Gardener (R) 4:40-7:20-10:20
The Starling Girl (R) 2:05
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 2:00
Fast X (PG-13) 10:15-1:20-4:20-7:25-10:00
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 10:35-12:55-3:10-5:20-7:30-9:45

CMX Village 14
1600 Village Market Boulevard
Fast X (PG-13) 12:40-2:15-3:50-5:30-7:10-8:45-10:20
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:20-4:20-6:20-7:50-9:45
Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret. (PG-13) 12:50
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 11:10-12:20-3:10-6:45-9:15
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:00-5:00
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 11:45-3:15-5:45-8:15
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 3D (PG-13) 2:50
Kandahar (R) 11:30-2:30-5:40-8:30
About My Father (PG-13) 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:05
The Machine (R) 1:15-4:10-7:20-10:15
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 2:00-8:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC: 3:00
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 12:00-2:00-6:00-8:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:00-12:30-1:00-1:30-3:30-4:00-4:30-5:00-6:30-7:00-7:30-9:00-9:30-10:00-10:30

Cinema Arts Theatre
9650 Unit 14 Main St.
Somewhere in Queens (R) 12:10-2:40-7:20-9:30
It Ain't Over (PG) 9:55-12:20-2:20-7:00-9:10
Book Club: The Next Chapter (PG-13) 9:50-12:25
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 10:05-12:15-2:25-7:30-9:30
BlackBerry (R) 9:45-12:05-2:35-7:40-10:00
Master Gardener (R) 9:45-2:30-4:50-7:10-9:25
About My Father (PG-13) 10:00-12:00-2:00-6:00-8:00-9:50
It Ain't Over (PG) 4:40
Book Club: The Next Chapter (PG-13) 4:55
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 5:00
BlackBerry (R) 5:05
About My Father (PG-13) 4:00

Cinemark Centreville 12
6201 Multiplex Drive
The Little Mermaid (PG) 1:30-8:00
Mem Famous 8:35
#Mentoo 9:45
Fast X (PG-13) 10:20-10:50-11:25-12:40-1:40-2:50-4:00-5:00-6:10-7:20-8:20-9:30-10:40
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 10:05-11:50-1:35-3:20-5:05-6:50-10:20
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 10:00-2:10-4:40-7:10-9:40
About My Father (PG-13) 10:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10
The Machine (R) 11:45-2:00-4:55-7:50-10:45
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:15-10:45-11:30-12:00-12:30-2:45-3:15-3:45-4:45-6:00-6:30-7:00-9:15-10:15

Cinemark Fairfax Corner and XD
11900 Palace Way
Fast X (PG-13) XD: 12:10-3:30-6:50-10:10
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) OC: 2:35
The Little Mermaid (PG) XD: 12:45
You Hurt My Feelings (R) OC: 2:50
About My Father (PG-13) OC: 2:45
The Machine (R) OC: 4:45
Fast X (PG-13) OC: 2:15
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) OC: 3:05
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 9:35-12:05-5:05-7:40-10:10
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:55
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 9:50-12:20-5:20-7:50-10:20
About My Father (PG-13) 9:45-12:15-5:15-7:45-10:15
The Machine (R) 11:05-1:55-7:35-10:25
Fast X (PG-13) 9:35-10:55-12:55-4:15-5:35-7:35-8:55-10:55
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 9:30-11:35-1:00-4:30-6:35-8:00-10:05
The Little Mermaid (PG) XD: 9:30-4:00-7:15-10:30; 1:50; 9:55-10:15-10:35-11:15-1:10-1:55-2:30-4:25-5:05-5:10-5:45-7:40-8:20-9:00-9:30

Medal of Honor Theater - NMMC
18900 Jefferson Davis Highway
We, the Marines (NR) 10:00-11:00-12:00-1:00-2:00-3:00-4:00

Regal Ballston Quarter
671 North Glebe Road
Fast X (PG-13) 11:00-12:00-2:20-3:30-5:30-7:30-10:40
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) 9:00
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:10-12:10-2:30-4:00-6:20-7:50-9:50
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 12:30-3:20-6:30-9:10
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:20-12:20-1:20-3:40-6:00-7:00-8:00-10:20
Kandahar (R) 12:50-3:50-6:50-10:00
About My Father (PG-13) 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:10-9:40
The Machine (R) 1:10-4:20-7:20-10:10
Face Off 6: The Ticket of Destiny (Lat Mat 6: Tm Ve Dinh Menh) 11:50-3:10-6:40-10:30
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 2:40-9:20
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC: 4:40

Regal Dulles Town Center
21100 Dulles Town Circle
Fast X (PG-13) 11:00-12:45-4:00-5:30-7:15-8:45-10:30
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 12:00-1:30-3:20-5:00-6:45-8:30-10:10
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 11:40-2:10-4:50-7:30-10:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:20-12:20-1:20-3:40-6:00-7:00-8:00-9:20-10:20
About My Father (PG-13) 11:30-2:05-4:45-7:25-9:55
The Machine (R) 1:00-4:15-7:10-10:15
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 2:40
Fast X (PG-13) OC: 2:15
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC: 4:40

Regal Fairfax Towne Center
4110 West Ox Road
Fast X (PG-13) 11:50-12:40-4:00-6:20-7:20-10:30
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) 9:40
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:30-2:50-6:10-9:30
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 11:10-1:40-4:10-6:40-9:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:20-12:20-1:20-3:40-4:40-6:00-7:00-7:50-9:10-10:10
Kandahar (R) 1:00-4:20-7:10-10:00
About My Father (PG-13) 11:40-2:00-4:50-7:15-9:50
The Machine (R) 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:20
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 2:40
Fast X (PG-13) OC: 3:00

Regal Fox & IMAX
22875 Brambleton Plaza
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:50-1:50-3:20-5:30-6:50-9:00-10:30
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 10:30-1:00-3:30-6:20-8:50
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:00-12:50-1:20-4:10-4:40-7:30-8:00-10:50; 2:00-5:20
It Ain't Over (PG) 10:50-1:30-4:30
Kandahar (R) 12:55-4:00-7:05-10:10
Anni Manchi Sakunamule 8:40
About My Father (PG-13) 11:30-2:05-4:45-7:15-9:55
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) 3:40-10:20
The Little Mermaid: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG) 12:20-7:00
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 3D (PG-13) 10:20AM
The Machine (R) 1:15-4:20-7:20-10:15
Godday Godday Chaa 7:10-10:40
Mem Famous 11:00-2:30-6:30-10:00
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 11:20-2:40-6:00-9:20
Fast X (PG-13) 10:10-11:10-12:40-1:40-2:50-4:15-5:00-6:10-7:40-8:30-9:40

Regal Kingstowne & RPX
5910 Kingstowne Towne Center
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 10:10-11:40-1:45-3:00-5:10-6:50-8:30-10:05
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 10:30-12:45-3:05-5:30-7:50-10:25
The Little Mermaid (PG) 12:20-7:00-10:20
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 11:10-1:50-4:30-7:10-10:00
Kandahar (R) 10:05-12:55-4:00-7:05-10:10
About My Father (PG-13) 11:30-2:05-4:45-7:15-9:55
The Machine (R) 10:35-1:15-4:20-7:20-10:15
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 3:40
Fast X (PG-13) 11:35-2:55-6:15-9:35
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:00-10:20-10:40-11:20-11:50-1:00-1:20-2:00-2:40-3:10-4:05-4:40-5:20-6:00-6:30-8:00-9:20-9:50
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 8:40
Fast X (PG-13) 10:15-12:35-1:35-5:00-7:30-8:20-9:00-10:40; 3:50

Regal Manassas & IMAX
11380 Bulloch Drive
Fast X (PG-13) 9:30
John Wick: Chapter 4 (R) 10:15
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:05-2:35-6:10-9:40
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 11:40-2:10-4:50-7:30-10:05
The Little Mermaid (PG) 11:20-2:00-2:40-4:40-5:20-6:00-6:30-8:40-9:20-9:50
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 11:10-1:50-4:30-7:10-10:00
Kandahar (R) 1:00-4:00-7:10-10:10
About My Father (PG-13) 11:30-2:05-4:45-7:15-9:55
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) 3:40-10:20
The Little Mermaid: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG) 12:20-7:00
The Machine (R) 11:05-1:15-4:20-7:20-10:15
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 1:20-8:00
Fast X (PG-13) 11:00-12:00-1:00-2:20-4:30-5:50-6:50-8:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) 3:30
Fast X (PG-13) OC: 3:05
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC: 11:50AM

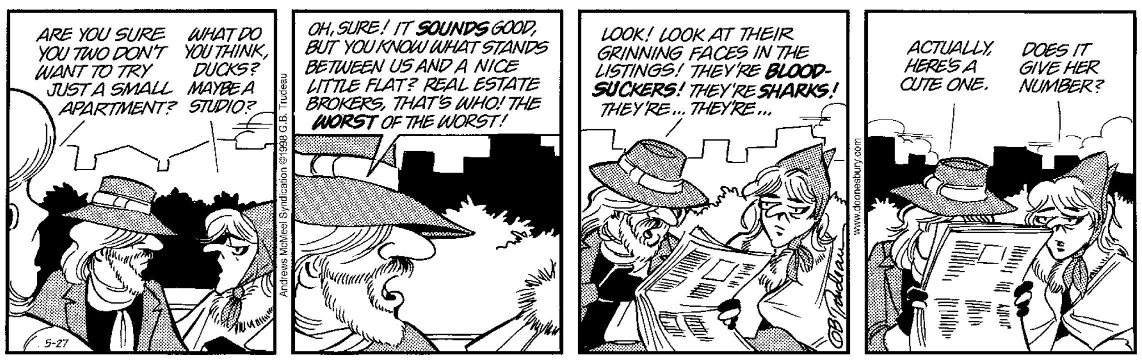
Regal Springfield Town Center
6859 Springfield Mall
Fast X (PG-13) 10:10-12:30-1:30-3:50-4:50-7:10-8:10-9:00-10:30
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:40-12:40-3:10-4:10-6:30-7:30-9:50
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 10:20-1:00-4:00-6:40-9:30
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:00-10:40-11:20-1:20-2:00-2:40-3:40-4:40-5:20-6:00-8:00-9:20-10:20
Kandahar (R) 10:30-1:30-5:00-7:50
About My Father (PG-13) 11:30-2:05-4:45-7:15-10:00
The Machine (R) 10:20-1:15-4:20-7:20-10:20
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 12:20-7:00

Regal Virginia Gateway & RPX
8001 Gateway Promenade Place
The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) 11:40-2:15-4:45-7:25-10:25
Book Club: The Next Chapter (PG-13) 11:00AM
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) 11:15-12:10-2:30-3:40-6:20-7:15-9:40-10:45
The Little Mermaid (PG) 12:20-7:00-10:20
You Hurt My Feelings (R) 11:10-1:50-4:30-7:35-10:05
Kandahar (R) 1:00-4:10-7:10-10:10
About My Father (PG-13) 11:30-2:10-4:50-6:10-10:50
The Machine (R) 1:15-4:20-7:20-10:15
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 3:30
Fast X (PG-13) 12:00-1:10-2:20-3:10-4:25-6:30-7:40-8:40-9:50-11:00
The Little Mermaid 3D (PG) 6:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) 10:50-11:20-1:20-2:00-2:40-4:40-5:20-7:30-8:00-8:30-9:20

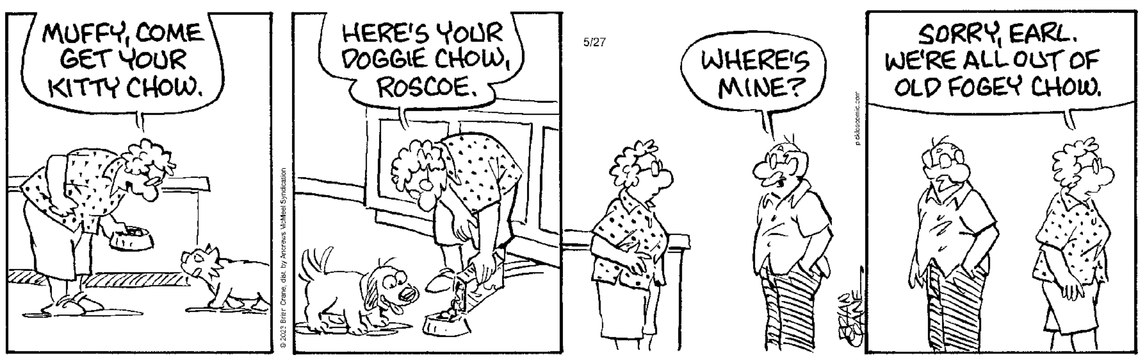
Smithsonian - Airbus IMAX Theater
14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway
Journey to Space (NR) 10:20-1:05
Aircraft Carrier: Guardian of the Seas 12:25
To Fly! (1976) (NR) 10:55-1:45-3:15
Fast X: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) 4:05
Blue Planet (Il pianeta azzurro) (NR) 11:30AM
The Dream is Alive (NR) 2:25

University Mall Theatres
10659-A Braddock Road
Fast X (PG-13) CC; DVS: 1:00-7:30-10:05
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) OC; DVS: 4:15
The Little Mermaid (PG) CC; DVS: 12:45-7:00-9:35
Fast X (PG-13) OC; DVS: 4:00
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG-13) CC; DVS: 1:15-7:15-10:00
The Little Mermaid (PG) OC; DVS: 3:45

CLASSIC DOONESBURY
GARRY TRUDEAU



PICKLES
BRIAN CRANE



BRIDGE

N-S VULNERABLE

NORTH
♠ Q J 4
♥ J 3 2
♦ J 6
♣ K 9 6 5 3

WEST
♠ 9 8 7 6
♥ 5
♦ A Q 10 8 7
♣ 8 7 2

EAST
♠ K 10 5
♥ Q 10 9
♦ 9 5 3 2
♣ Q J 10

SOUTH (D)
♠ A 3 2
♥ A K 8 7 6 4
♦ K 4
♣ A 4

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	All Pass		

Opening lead — ♠ 9

"Simple Saturday" columns focus on improving basic technique and developing logical thinking.

I've heard it said that the best thing about rules is knowing when you can enjoy breaking them. To be sure, many defensive "rules" that players learn have exceptional cases.

In today's deal, West leads the nine of spades against four hearts, and declarer plays the queen from dummy. Suppose East "covers an honor with an honor," as the rule enjoins. South takes the ace and cashes the A-K of trumps. When West discards, South tries the A-K of clubs and a club ruff.

When the suit breaks 3-3, South goes to dummy with the jack of spades and throws his last spade on a good club as East ruffs. West gets two diamond tricks, but South makes his game.

East defeats the contract if he ignores a rule. If he plays low on the first spade, he deprives South of a late entry to dummy, and the defenders get four tricks in all.

Beware of "rules." They are better regarded as tendencies.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold:
♠ A 3 2 ♥ A K 8 7 6 4
♦ K 4 ♣ A 4

The dealer, at your right, opens one spade. What do you say?

ANSWER: Your hand is too strong to overcall two hearts. You have 18 good high-card points, and your king of diamonds, located behind the opening bidder, may be worth as much as an ace. Double for takeout. If your partner responds with two of a minor, you will bid two hearts. You will suggest a strong hand but can stay low if partner has nothing.

— Frank Stewart

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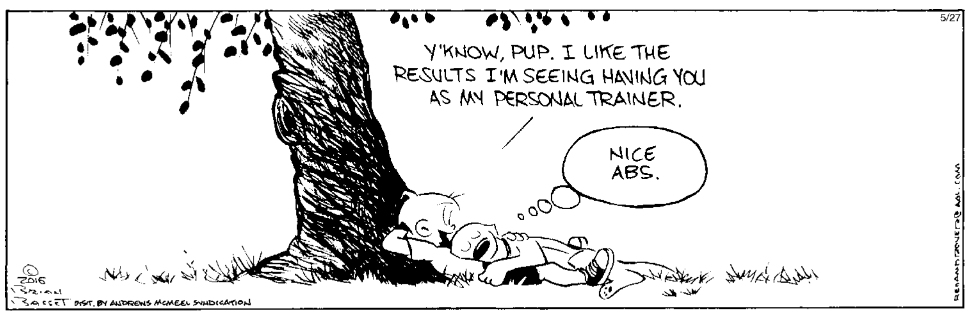
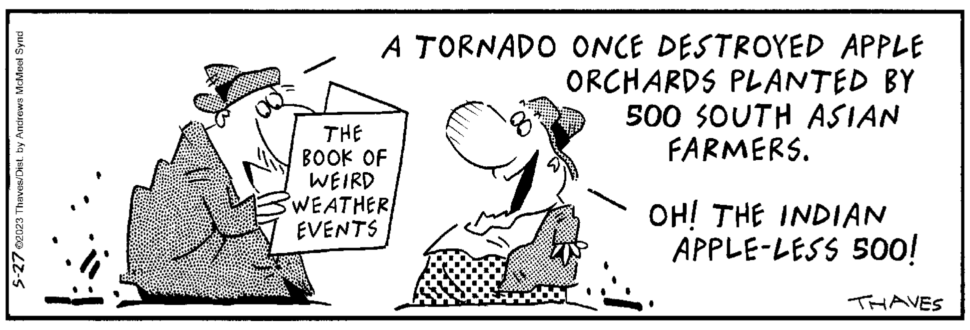
RED AND ROVER
BRIAN BASSET

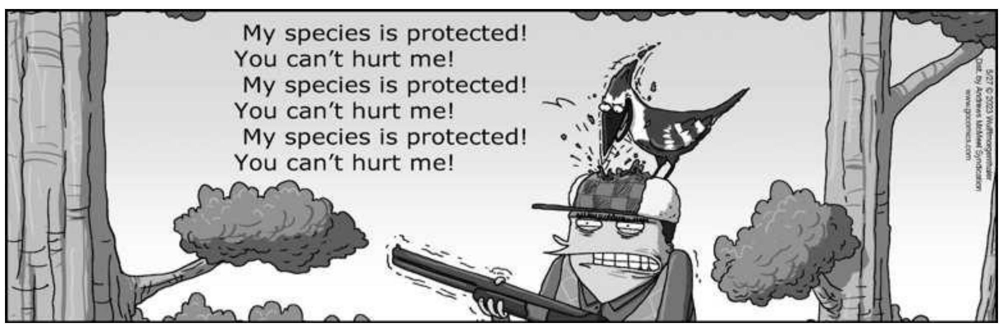


AGNES
TONY COCHRAN

FRANK AND ERNEST
TOM THAVES

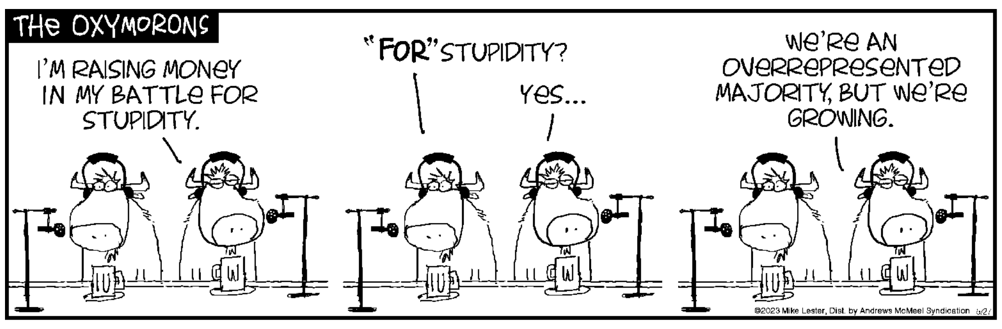


WUMO
MIKAEL WULFF & ANDERS MORGENTHALER



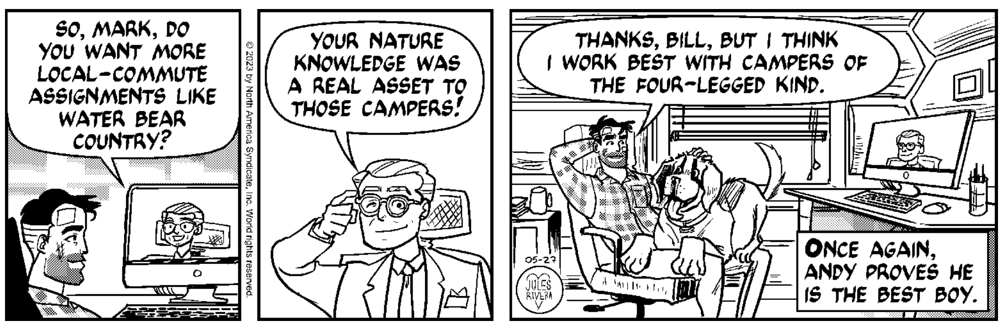
CLASSIC PEANUTS
CHARLES SCHULZ

MIKE DU JOUR
MIKE LESTER

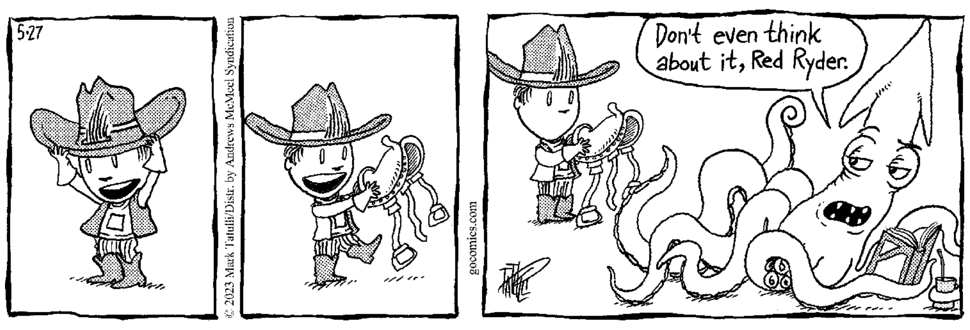


RHYMES WITH ORANGE
HILARY PRICE

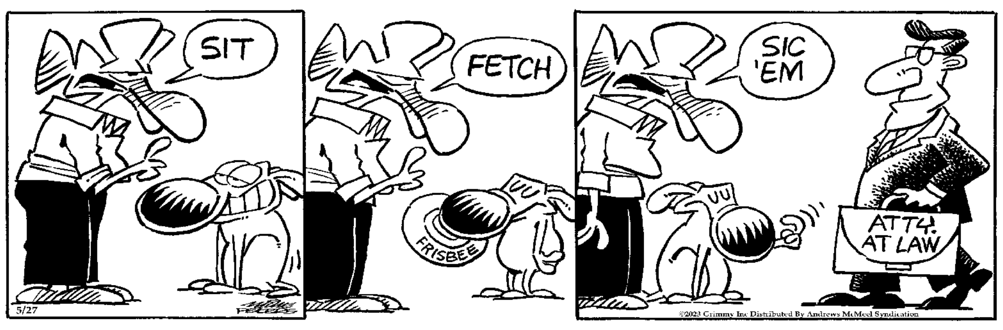
MARK TRAIL
JULES RIVERA



LIO
MARK TATULLI

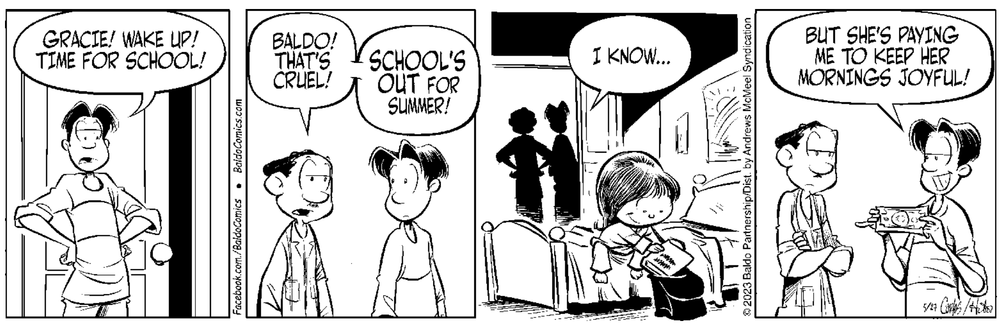


MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM
MIKE PETERS

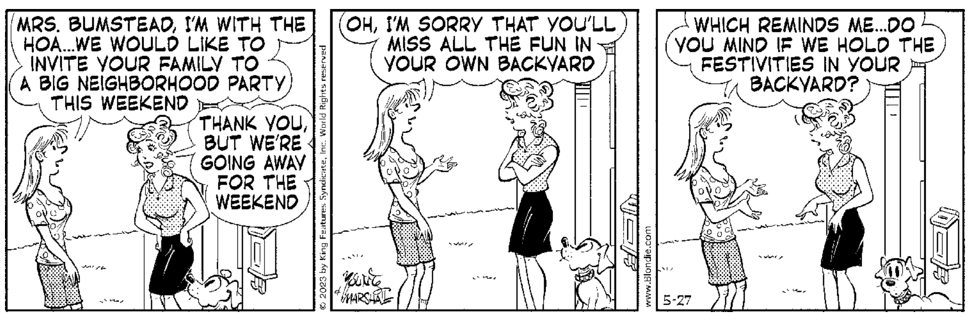


HAGAR THE HORRIBLE
CHRIS BROWNE

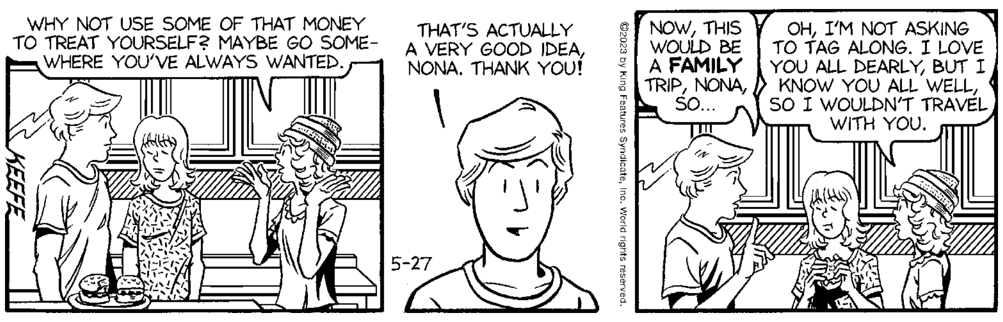
BALDO
HECTOR CANTU & CARLOS CASTELLANOS



BLONDIE
DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL



SALLY FORTH
FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE



SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

4			8	6		3	1	
				3				
				5	1		2	6
		8					6	
9				2				8
	7					4		
7	5		1	4				
				9				
	4	9		7	5			2

5/27

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★★

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SCRABBLE GRAMS

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RACK 1: E₁ O₁ O₁ U₁ H₄ G₂ N₁

RACK 2: A₁ U₁ S₁ L₁ F₄ J₈ R₁ — Triple Word Score

RACK 3: E₁ E₁ O₁ O₁ H₄ V₄ B₃ — 2nd Letter Double

RACK 4: A₁ E₁ U₁ D₂ N₁ R₁ H₄

PAR SCORE 150-160
BEST SCORE 238

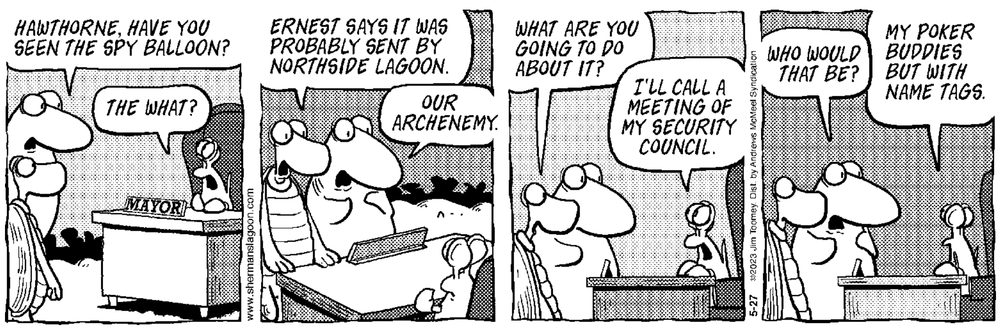
FOUR RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

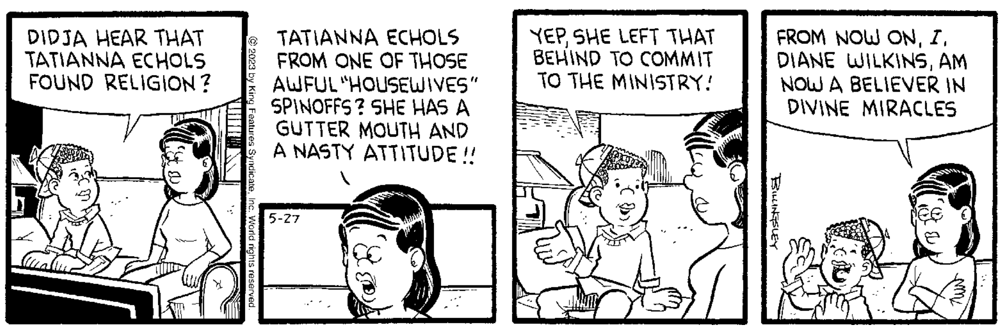
For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com

05-27

SHERMAN'S LAGOON
JIM TOOMEY



CURTIS
RAY BILLINGSLEY



JUMBLE CROSSWORDS
by David L. Hoyt

5-27-23

ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. ____ pass	ESOSNA
5. Combine	EGMRE
6. Stockings material	NNOLY
7. Green ____	EERPPP

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Plainly, clearly	SYLMPI
2. Organize	NERRGAA
3. Cover part of	LEAVORP
4. Black eye	NHISER

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How to play: Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

DOUBLE BONUS: The circled letters can be unscrambled to form two different BONUS answers.

CLUE: Precariously, dangerously

CLUE: Not by much, kind of

ANSWERS: 1A-Season 5A-Merge 6A-Nylon 7A-Pepper 1D-Simply 2D-Arrange 3D-Overlap 4D-Shiner B-Alarmingly B-Marginally

Do you have any comments? I would love to hear from you. You can e-mail me at: DLHoyt@HoytInteractiveMedia.com

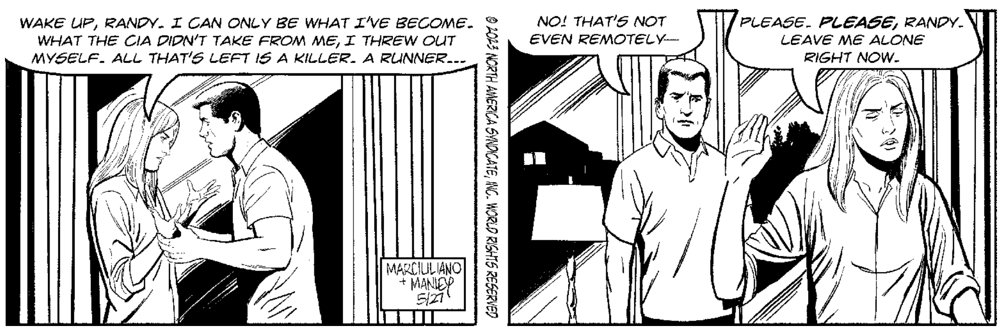
BREWSTER ROCKIT: SPACE GUY!
TIM RICKARD

MUTTS PATRICK McDONNELL

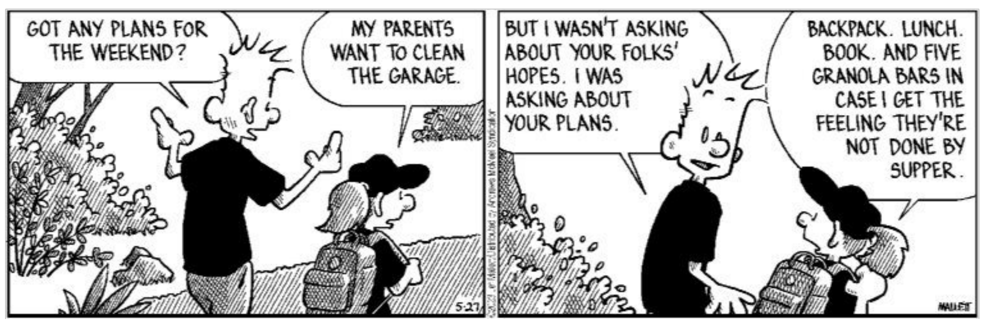
ZITS JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN

HEART OF THE CITY STEENZ

JUDGE PARKER FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & MIKE MANLEY



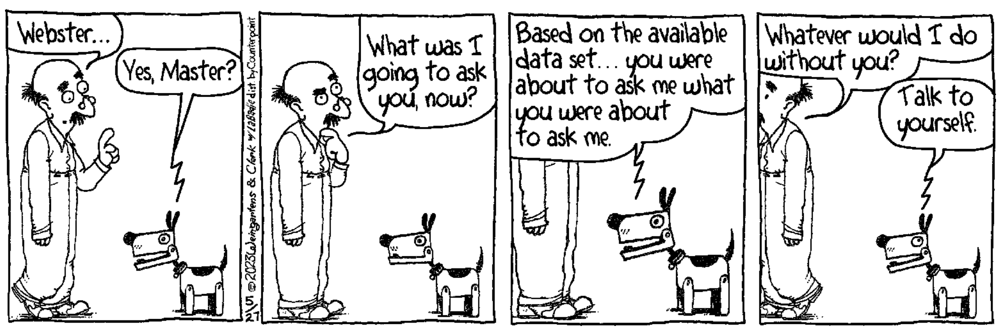
FRAZZ JEF MALLETT



CANDORVILLE DARRIN BELL

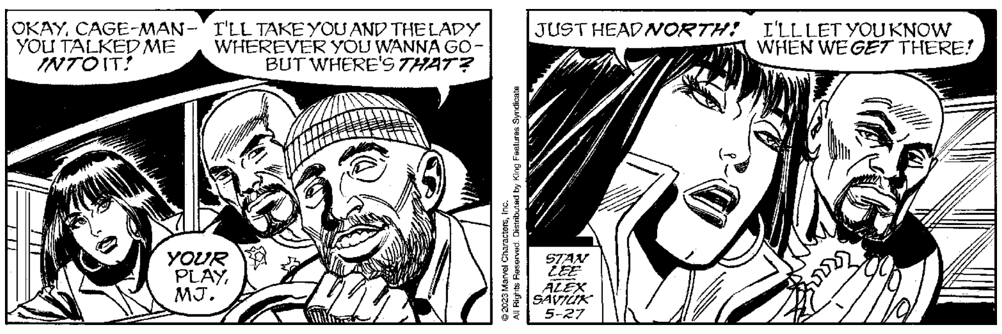
GARFIELD JIM DAVIS

BARNEY AND CLYDE WEINGARTENS & CLARK

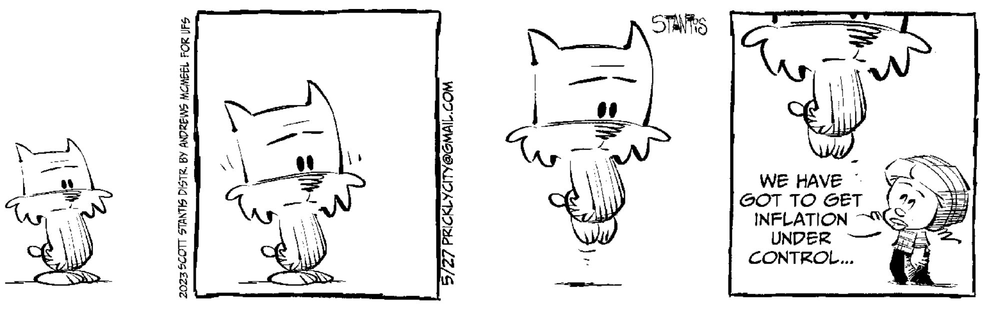


DUSTIN STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN STAN LEE & ALEX SAVIUK

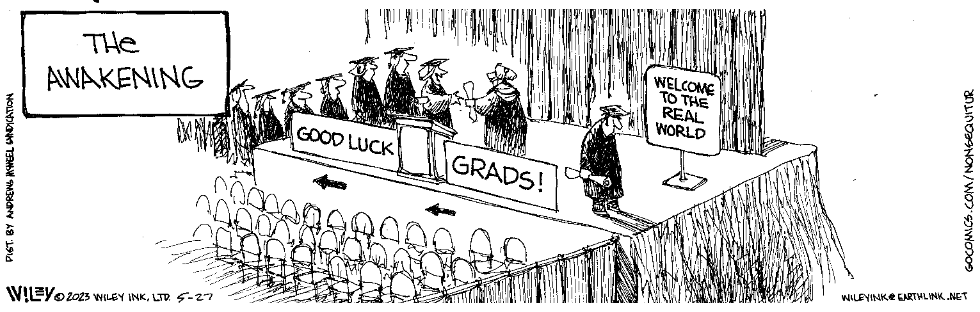


PRICKLY CITY SCOTT STANTIS

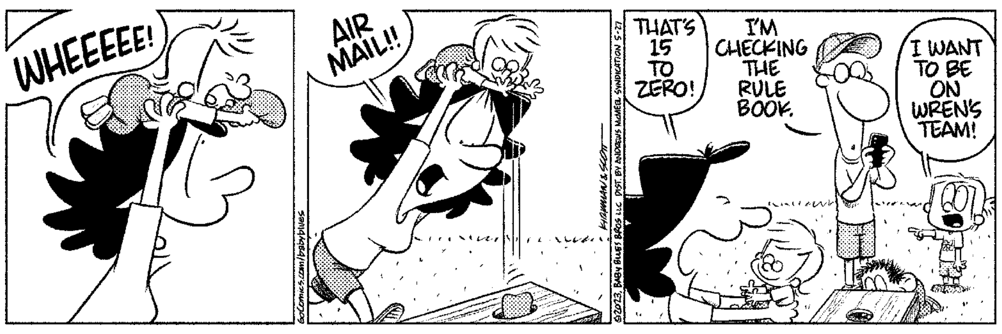


LOOSE PARTS DAVE BLAZEK

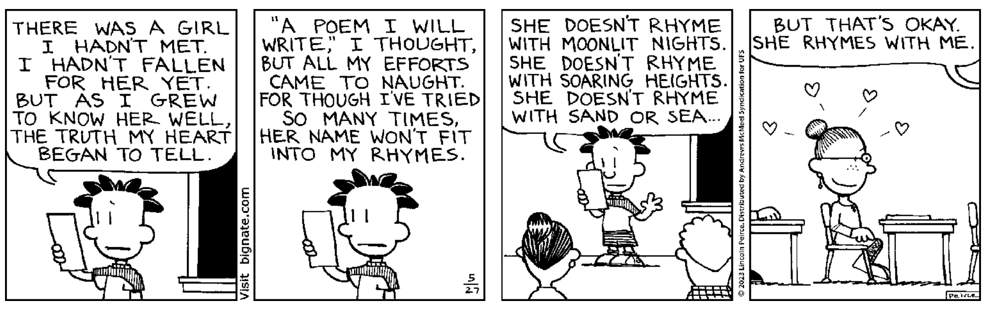
NON SEQUITUR WILEY



BABY BLUES RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT



BIG NATE LINCOLN PEIRCE



ON THE FASTRACK BILL HOLBROOK

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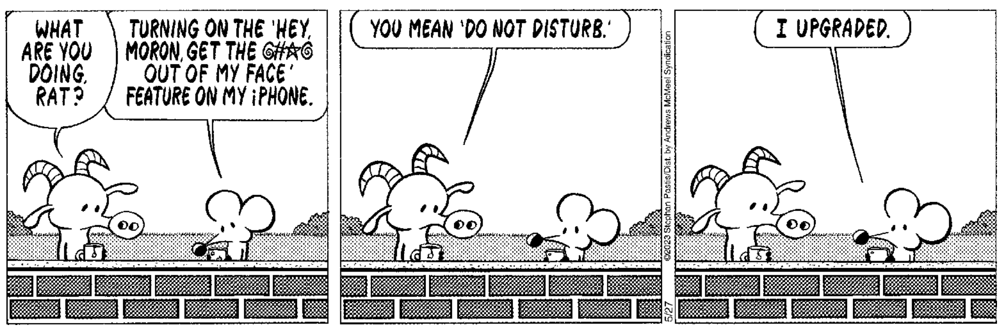
BEETLE BAILEY GREG, BRIAN & NEAL WALKER

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE STEPHAN PASTIS



HOROSCOPE

BIRTHDAY | MAY 27

You are perceptive and creative, and you like to share your ideas. The strength of your personality can lift any situation that you find yourself in. (You're that powerful.) This is a wonderful year to socialize and enjoy life! Your creativity, zest and desire for good times are sparked!

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Virgo.

ARIES
(MARCH 21-APRIL 19).
Today is a productive and financially favorable day. Nevertheless, you might find yourself at odds with someone older or someone in authority. Cope as best you can. This can be a playful weekend for you, especially with sports and fun activities with kids. Enjoy!

TAURUS
(APRIL 20-MAY 20).
Children might be an increased responsibility today. Nevertheless, you're in such a positive frame of mind, you'll enjoy talking to others. You will also appreciate the beauty of your daily surroundings.

GEMINI
(MAY 21-JUNE 20).
Respect family members today, especially authority figures, because they might have advice for you. (If their dictates restrict you, you can't ignore this.) Meanwhile, enjoy the quiet of your home today, or instead choose to entertain.

CANCER
(JUNE 21-JULY 22).
This is a good day to shop for wardrobe items for yourself. Hopefully, you will score a bargain, which is something that you appreciate! (You invented the garage sale.)

LEO
(JULY 23-AUG. 22).
Don't be discouraged by critics who throw cold water on your financial ideas. You are successful right now, and you look favorable in the eyes of others, which means you can pull off deals that others might doubt.

VIRGO
(AUG. 23-SEPT. 22).
You are favored today because the Moon is in your sign, and the Sun at the top of your chart is thrusting you in a favorable spotlight. Therefore, ask for what you want! Demand the advantage; you might get it.

LIBRA
(SEPT. 23-OCT. 22).
Although your urge to travel and explore is strong now, today you're happy to be low-key and take it easy. Relations with parents and authority figures continue to be excellent. In fact, they are so cozy that some of you might strike up a romantic relationship with a boss.

SCORPIO
(OCT. 23-NOV. 21).
This is an excellent day to socialize! You will enjoy interacting with groups and organizations. It's also a good day to share your ideas for future goals. Someone's feedback could be helpful.

SAGITTARIUS
(NOV. 22-DEC. 21).
People admire you today. Quite likely, someone is saying good things about you. (Might as well milk this for all it's worth.) This is a good day to negotiate with others. You'll end up getting your fair share.

CAPRICORN
(DEC. 22-JAN. 19).
Today you have a strong urge to shake things up a little. You want a change of pace. You want adventure. You want to meet new people and see new things. Therefore, do something to satisfy this desire to explore more of your world!

AQUARIUS
(JAN. 20-FEB. 18).
Your playful nature is still energized, which means social occasions, sports events, fun activities with kids, the theater, the arts and romance are all excellent choices. Nevertheless, you might have to devote some time today to red-tape details about shared property and inheritances.

PISCES
(FEB. 19-MARCH 20).
Be cooperative with others. You might have to be giving and accommodating to make things work today. This is because today, the Moon is opposite your sign, which occurs for two and a half days every month. It is what it is.

— Georgia Nicols

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PREVIOUS SUDOKU SOLUTION

6	3	1	8	9	4	2	5	7
9	8	4	7	2	5	3	6	1
5	7	2	1	6	3	8	4	9
7	1	8	5	3	9	6	2	4
2	9	6	4	1	8	7	3	5
4	5	3	6	7	2	1	9	8
3	4	5	2	8	1	9	7	6
1	6	9	3	4	7	5	8	2
8	2	7	9	5	6	4	1	3

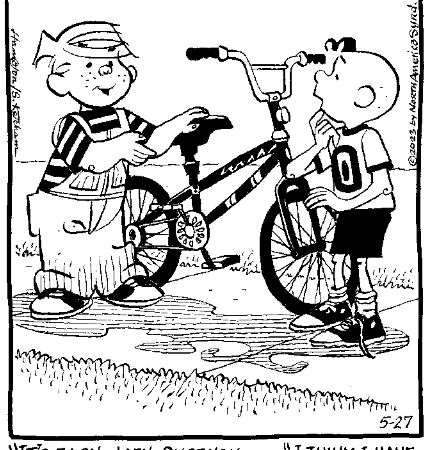
PREVIOUS SCRABBLEGRAMS SOLUTION

P_3	I_1	L_1	L_1	O_1	W_4		RACK 1 =	11
A_1	D_2	D_2	R_1	E_1	S_1	S_1	RACK 2 =	68
C_3	O_1	N_1	G_2	E_1	S_1	T_1	RACK 3 =	60
N_1	U_1	M_3	E_1	R_1	A_1	L_1	RACK 4 =	65

PAR SCORE 145-155 TOTAL 204

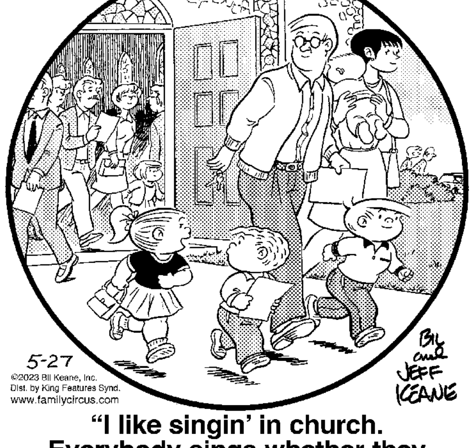
SPEED BUMP DAVE COVERLY

DENNIS THE MENACE H. KETCHAM



"IT'S EASY, JOEY. ONCE YOU LEARN, YOU NEVER FORGET." "I THINK I HAVE RIDER'S BLOCK."

FAMILY CIRCUS BIL KEANE



"I like singin' in church. Everybody sings whether they know the words or not."

REPLY ALL LITE DONNA A. LEWIS

The Washington Post

SPORTS

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023 M2 D

COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Jill Biden and LSU's Angel Reese embrace as the White House honors Tigers women and Connecticut men. **D2**

GOLF
At his home course near Los Angeles, the PGA success of club pro Michael Block has the place all abuzz. **D3**

HIGH SCHOOLS
Sherwood wins unprecedented third straight Md. 4A baseball title, headlining a day of championships. **D6**

BRIAN BRANCH-PRICE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Knights wear armor weighing up to 100 pounds when they duel at events such as this one at New York's Central Park. Teams of fighters are spread across the nation.

Medieval meets modern

Harking back to days of old, knights in shining armor are engaging in combat here in the U.S.

BY **KRISTEN HARTKE**

NEW YORK — Even in a city where pretty much anything goes, the sight and sound of knights in shining armor swinging swords at each other still draws a crowd.

"Are you ready for a medieval rumble?" shouts an announcer in a black kilt and leather boots. Spectators scream back, and play begins, steel striking steel hard, combatants hitting the ground with loud thuds.

The scene is no scripted historical reenactment, though it takes place just outside the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the centuries of metal suits on display there. These knights are real rivals, clad head to toe for contests that have adapted ancient rules of engagement for modern-day action.

Today's sport began a few decades ago in Eastern Europe, and now medieval armored combat is spreading globally — including in the United States. There are training regimens for endurance. Teams and leagues for men and women. National federations as well as international competitions with prize money. Even two different world championships, recently held in Spain and the Czech Republic.

"It's like full-contact MMA with steel weapons," says 42-year-old Damion DiGrazia, who runs the team known as Gladiators NYC. "It's also this sport that is surprisingly transformative for a lot of people."

Participants describe finding emotional strength they never knew they possessed. They also stress the physical stamina required when donning 50 to 100 pounds of metal and then moving nimbly yet aggressively for matches that take place in every kind of weather.

"Putting yourself in a tin can doesn't

SEE **MEDIEVAL** ON **D2**

Kuhl rescues Nats in slugfest

NATIONALS 12, ROYALS 10

After offense explodes, pitching nearly implodes

BY **JESSE DOUGHERTY**

KANSAS CITY, MO. — After the Washington Nationals scored a season-high eight runs in the sixth inning Friday night, almost lost their massive lead, then scored three more in the eighth to widen it again, the bullpen phone rang to request the services of . . . Chad Kuhl, who only recently became a reliever after posting a 9.41 ERA in five starts.

The bullpen was short after Hunter Harvey and Kyle Finnegan each pitched Wednesday and Thursday. And before Kuhl started his very long warm-up, Patrick Corbin couldn't quite give the Nationals seven innings against the Royals, Erasmo Ramírez couldn't record an out behind Corbin and Carl Edwards Jr. couldn't finish the seventh and eighth, when Kansas City loaded the bases with one out and Salvador Perez and Bobby Witt Jr. coming up.

A 12-10 win for the Nationals will show up as just another victory on their record. The path to it, however, was much more stressful than they might have expected when the offense erupted in the sixth.

Kuhl's seven-year career included just 17 relief appearances before Friday. This season, he had only one after Jake Irvin moved into the rotation while Kuhl spent three weeks on the injured list with a sprained big toe.

But in a pinch, Martinez asked Kuhl to paper over his team's lack of bullpen depth. Perez, the first batter he faced, slapped an RBI single to right. Witt, who already had four hits in the game — including a single, a double, a solo homer off Corbin and a

SEE **NATIONALS** ON **D5**

Nationals at Royals
Today, 4 p.m., MASN

Cavs' Sallade writes his own 'superhero story'

Defensive midfielder will go for third title in five years after speedy recovery from torn ACL

BY **PATRICK STEVENS**

Virginia enters the NCAA tournament semifinals with 13 victories this season. A triumph that won't show up in the win column might be the most impressive thing anyone tied to the Cavaliers has done in the past year.

Grayson Sallade was barely eight months removed from ACL surgery when Virginia opened its season Feb. 11. Yet there was Sallade, taking his usual spot in the Cavaliers' short-stick rotation and on faceoff wings.

"When we were younger, I remember hearing stories about how fast Ryan Conrad was able to return from injury [in 2019] and it was sort of like a superhero story," attackman Xander Dickson said. "Then here comes Grayson and he did it faster than Conrad did it and kind of under-the-radar because that's who Grayson is."

Sallade has played in all 16 games, scoring twice and adding six assists while earning an honorable mention all-American nod for his work as a short-stick defensive midfielder. Already part of two national title teams, he'll attempt to help the second-seeded Cavaliers (13-3) take a step toward another Saturday when they face third-seeded Notre Dame (12-2) at Philadelphia's Lincoln Financial Field.

Dickson had a clear view of Sallade's rehab as the two were roommates while interning in Washington. Sallade suffered his injury last May 22 in an NCAA quarterfinal loss to Maryland, underwent surgery in Charlottesville about two weeks later and went to D.C. about 10 days after the procedure.

Whenever he wasn't working, it was a safe bet he was attending to his physical therapy. He sat out Virginia's fall ball before getting cleared in early December and spent the next month and a half doing his own training to ensure he was ready for the preseason.

By Jan. 15, he was ready to go.

"When I started to realize that I was going to get cleared a little earlier than I thought, I think that was my moral victory," Sallade said. "From there, I was just trying to get back to normal as much as possible so I could go out there and perform the way I thought I could. Not just to get back out there but to do it effectively."

Teammates were among the first to discover just how rapidly Sallade was back to his usual self. In the weeks leading into the season opener, he was going all-out in six-on-six drills.

Anyone trying to be cautious

SEE **VIRGINIA** ON **D2**

BRIAN FOLEY/VIRGINIA ATHLETICS

Grayson Sallade will lead Virginia against Notre Dame on Saturday for a berth in the NCAA title game.

NCAA men's lacrosse semifinals
Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia
Penn State vs. Duke, noon
Virginia vs. Notre Dame, 2:30 p.m.
TV: ESPN2

Delle Donne leads way in her return to Chicago

MYSTICS 71, SKY 69

BY **KAREEM COPELAND**

CHICAGO — Chicago Sky Coach James Wade was a bit annoyed before Friday's game against Washington, marveling at how the local newspaper ran a picture of Elena Delle Donne as the centerpiece photo on the day of his team's home opener. Delle Donne, a former Sky star and two-time MVP, is now the Mystics' headliner — and she played up to the billing in a thriller at Wintrust Arena.

In her first game in Chicago since 2019, Delle Donne dropped 25 points, including a decisive three-pointer with 22.4 seconds remaining, in the Mystics' 71-69 win.

The key sequence came after the Mystics inbounded with 38

SEE **MYSTICS** ON **D5**

Wings at Mystics
Friday, 7 p.m., Ion

Celtics 'thrive in chaos.' No wonder they're rolling.

Candace Buckner

BOSTON — They must like the pressure. These Boston Celtics sure don't seem to respond to much else. They have owned home-court advantage through the playoffs, but time and time again they have shuffled onto the parquet floor of TD Garden and shrugged, then shrank in the moment. That was most evident during these Eastern Conference finals, when they lost the first two games at home and eventually stumbled into a 3-0 deficit against the Miami Heat.

They also have enjoyed a clear edge in the talent department — again, most noticeably while facing the eighth-seeded Heat. In contrast to Miami's, Boston's roster offers lineup versatility and defensive depth that is anchored by two young stars.

SEE **BUCKNER** ON **D5**

Game 6: Celtics at Heat
Today, 8:30 p.m., TNT

DIGEST

SOCCER

U.S. stays unblemished at the U-20 World Cup

The United States completed a perfect group stage at the Under-20 World Cup in Argentina and Ecuador joined it in the knockout stage Friday.

The Group B-leading Americans defeated Slovakia, 2-0, in San Juan, and second-place Ecuador beat Fiji, 9-0, in Santiago del Estero.

The U.S. squad had already secured a spot in the knockout stage but finished the group stage with three wins in three games and no goals conceded. Its next game will be against the third-place team from Group A, C or D on Tuesday.

Cade Cowell scored before halftime from a counterattack, and **Niko Tsakiris** added the second goal in injury time.

Host Argentina beat New Zealand, 5-0, in San Juan to finish atop Group A.

COLLEGES

Izzy Scane scored six goals and **Hailey Rhatigan** added four to lead the top-seeded Northwestern women's lacrosse team to a 15-7 rout of Denver in the national semifinals in Cary, N.C.

Erin Coykendall and **Madison Taylor** scored twice each for the Wildcats (20-1), who rallied after trailing 4-2 at the end of the first quarter. **Kayla DeRose** scored three goals for the No. 5 Pioneers (22-1), who yielded double-digit goals for the first time all season.

Northwestern will play in the championship game Sunday at noon against No. 3 seed Boston College, which rallied to score the last three goals of the game for an 8-7 victory over second-seeded Syracuse in the second semifinal.

Kayla Martello scored the last of three unanswered goals as the Eagles (19-3) rallied from a 7-5 deficit in the fourth quarter to reach their sixth consecutive championship game.

Jenn Medjid scored five goals for Boston College, which never led until the final goal. **Emma Ward** scored a pair of goals for the Orange (18-3). . . .

After a second straight national championship in football, Georgia rewarded Athletic Director **Josh Brooks**, 42, with a contract extension that ties him to the Bulldogs through at least 2029.

Brooks's new contract will increase his salary to $1.025 million a year, with annual raises of $100,000.

The athletic association board also announced plans for a new track and field facility that will free up space for two more football practice fields.

In other Georgia news, the school fired baseball coach **Scott Stricklin**, ending a decade-long tenure. He was 299-236-1 with the Bulldogs, 29-27 this season. . . .

Iowa AD **Gary Barta**, 59, will retire Aug. 1 after 17 years at the university, the school announced. He is one of the longest-tenured ADs at a Power Five school. . . .

Denny Stolz, who was named football coach of the year in four conferences, died Thursday, Michigan State announced. He was 89.

Stolz was 126-92-2 over 21 seasons with the Spartans, Bowling Green, San Diego State and Alma College. He was the 1974 Big Ten coach of the year.

CYCLING

Geraint Thomas, at 37 bidding to become the oldest Giro d'Italia champion, saw his lead trimmed by closest rival **Primoz Rogli** on the toughest stage of the race.

Rogli crossed the summit finish in Tre Cime di Lavaredo three seconds ahead of Thomas.

The 183-kilometer (114-mile) route from Longarone to the Tre Cime di Lavaredo had five climbs.

The 19th stage of the race, which ends Sunday in Rome, was won by **Santiago Buitrago**.

— From news services and staff reports

TELEVISION AND RADIO

MLB

1 p.m.	**San Diego at New York Yankees** » MLB Network
4 p.m.	**Washington at Kansas City** » MASN, WJFK (106.7 FM)
4 p.m.	**Texas at Baltimore** » MASN2, WIYY (97.9 FM), WSBN (630 AM)
4 p.m.	**Philadelphia at Atlanta** » Fox Sports 1
7 p.m.	**St. Louis at Cleveland** » WTTG (Ch. 5), WBFF (Ch. 45)
10 p.m.	**Miami at Los Angeles Angels** » MLB Network

NBA PLAYOFFS

8:30 p.m.	**Eastern Conference finals, Game 6: Boston at Miami** » TNT

STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS

8 p.m.	**Western Conference finals, Game 5: Dallas at Vegas** » WJLA (Ch. 7), WMAR (Ch. 2)

WNBA

1 p.m.	**Commissioner's Cup: Connecticut at New York** » WUSA (Ch. 9), WJZ (Ch. 13)
9 p.m.	**Commissioner's Cup: Los Angeles at Las Vegas** » NBA TV

AUTO RACING

6:30 a.m.	**Formula One: Monaco Grand Prix, practice** » ESPN2
10 a.m.	**Formula One: Monaco Grand Prix, qualifying** » ESPN
1 p.m.	**NASCAR Xfinity Series: Alsco Uniforms 300** » Fox Sports 1
7 p.m.	**NASCAR Cup Series: Coca-Cola 600, qualifying** » Fox Sports 1

GOLF

6:30 a.m.	**DP World Tour: KLM Open, third round** » Golf Channel
1 p.m.	**LIV Golf Series: Washington, second round** » CW
1 p.m.	**PGA Tour: Charles Schwab Challenge, third round** » Golf Channel
1:30 p.m.	**PGA Tour Champions: Senior PGA Championship, third round** » Golf Channel
3 p.m.	**PGA Tour: Charles Schwab Challenge, third round** » WUSA (Ch. 9), WJZ (Ch. 13)
5:30 p.m.	**LPGA Tour: Match Play, Day 4** » Golf Channel

SOCCER

7:30 a.m.	**Scottish Premiership: Aberdeen at Celtic** » CBS Sports Network
3 p.m.	**French Ligue 1: Paris Saint-Germain at Strasbourg** » beIN Sports
7:30 p.m.	**MLS: D.C. United at Toronto** » Apple TV Plus, WONK (104.7 FM)
8 p.m.	**NWSL: North Carolina at Louisville FC** » CBS Sports Network
10 p.m.	**Canadian Premier League: HFX Wanderers at Pacific** » Fox Sports 2

TENNIS

7 a.m.	**ATP: Geneva Open and Lyon Open, quarterfinals; WTA: Strasbourg International and Morocco Open, finals** » Tennis Channel

USFL

4 p.m.	**Birmingham vs. New Orleans** » WTTG (Ch. 5), WBFF (Ch. 45)
9 p.m.	**Philadelphia vs. Pittsburgh** » Fox Sports 1

HOCKEY

7 p.m.	**American Hockey League playoffs: Eastern Conference finals, Game 3: Hershey at Rochester** » NBC Sports Washington

MEN'S PROFESSIONAL LACROSSE

7 p.m.	**NLL finals, Game 1: Colorado at Buffalo** » ESPNU

BASKETBALL

7 p.m.	**Military Basketball Association** » CBS Sports Network

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

1 a.m. (Sunday)	**Collingwood at North Melbourne** » Fox Sports 2

RUGBY

6 p.m.	**Major League Rugby: Seattle at Old Glory DC** » Fox Sports 2

TRACK AND FIELD

4:30 p.m.	**USATF: LA Grand Prix** » WRC (Ch. 4), WBAL (Ch. 11)

NCAA MEN'S LACROSSE TOURNAMENT

Noon	**Semifinal: Penn State vs. Duke** » ESPN2
2:30 p.m.	**Semifinal: Notre Dame vs. Virginia** » ESPN2

COLLEGE BASEBALL CONFERENCE TOURNAMENTS

10 a.m.	**Big Ten: Semifinal, Iowa vs. Michigan** » Big Ten Network
Noon	**Big South: Final, Campbell vs. USC Upstate** » ESPNU
1 p.m.	**SEC: Semifinal, Arkansas vs. Texas A&M** » SEC Network
1 p.m.	**ACC: Semifinal, Wake Forest vs. Miami** » ACC Network
2 p.m.	**Big Ten: Semifinal, Maryland vs. Nebraska** » Big Ten Network
4 p.m.	**West Coast: Final, Santa Clara vs. TBD** » ESPNU
4:30 p.m.	**SEC: Semifinal, Florida vs. Vanderbilt** » SEC Network
5 p.m.	**ACC: Semifinal, Clemson vs. North Carolina** » ACC Network
6 p.m.	**Big Ten: Semifinal, Iowa vs. Michigan (if necessary)** » Big Ten Network
10 p.m.	**Big Ten: Semifinal, Maryland vs. Nebraska (if necessary)** » Big Ten Network
10 p.m.	**Pac-12: Final, Oregon vs. TBD** » ESPN2

NCAA SOFTBALL SUPER REGIONALS

1 p.m.	**Game 2: Clemson at Oklahoma** » ESPN
3 p.m.	**Game 2: Stanford at Duke** » ESPN
3 p.m.	**Game 2: Texas at Tennessee** » WJLA (Ch. 7), WMAR (Ch. 2)
5 p.m.	**Game 2: San Diego State at Utah** » TBD
7 p.m.	**Game 2: Louisiana Lafayette at Washington** » TBD
9 p.m.	**Game 2: Northwestern at Alabama** » ESPN

Reese, first lady hug as champion LSU is honored

Controversy over remark about Iowa unaddressed; U-Conn. men also feted

BY GLYNN A. HILL

President Biden and first lady Jill Biden welcomed the LSU women's basketball team to the White House on Friday in an event that honored the national champions nearly two months after the first lady's suggestion that the runner-up also visit set off a wave of criticism and a "Saturday Night Live" sketch.

LSU star Angel Reese, whose reaction to Jill Biden's comments fueled the story's run through the news cycle, shared a hug with the first lady and presented her with a jersey at the ceremony, during which the controversy was not addressed.

"You didn't just play basketball. You didn't just make history," Jill Biden said during her opening remarks. "You showed us — girls and boys, women and men — what it means to be a champion."

The president and first lady spoke about the team's accomplishments on the court and the example its players set off the floor. Both highlighted Reese, the Final Four's most outstanding player, as well as Coach Kim Mulkey and several other Tigers players who played a key role in defeating Iowa, 102-85, in the national championship game April 2 for LSU's first NCAA title.

President Biden joked that he was organizing a one-on-one game between Reese and her cousin Jordan Hawkins, a star of the Connecticut team that won the men's championship and was honored in a separate White House ceremony later Friday.

ELIZABETH FRANTZ FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

LSU co-captains Emily Ward, left, and Angel Reese present team jerseys to President Biden and first lady Jill Biden on Friday.

"I'm putting my money on you, kid," Biden said to Reese.

Midway through the ceremony, an LSU player standing among her teammates behind the president collapsed onstage. Biden paused his remarks for several minutes while the player, identified later by Mulkey as freshman forward Sa'Myah Smith, received prompt attention. Biden told the crowd, "everything's okay," and Mulkey later said Smith was "fine." Smith was taken out of the East Room in a wheelchair, according to the White House pool report.

After the event resumed, LSU co-captains Emily Ward and Reese presented the president and first lady with No. 46 LSU jerseys. They shared hugs and posed for photos.

Early last month, there appeared to be some uncertainty as to whether such a moment would materialize. After LSU defeated Iowa, the first lady, who attended the game in Dallas, said she would like Iowa to come to Washington for the traditional White House visit alongside the Tigers.

"I know we'll have the champions come to the White House; we always do, so we hope LSU will come," Biden said during remarks at the Colorado Capitol in Denver the morning after the game. "But, you know, I'm going to tell Joe I think Iowa should come, too, because they played such a good game."

Reese quickly criticized the comment. She called the idea "A JOKE" on Twitter, and Vanessa Valdivia, the first lady's press secretary and a special assistant to President Biden, tweeted a clarification a day after Jill Biden's remarks.

"The first lady loved watching the NCAA women's basketball championship game alongside young student-athletes and admires how far women have advanced in sports since the passing of Title IX," Valdivia's tweet read. "Her comments in Colorado were intended to applaud the historic game and all women athletes. She looks forward to celebrating the LSU Tigers on their championship win at the White House."

In the ensuing days, Reese said in interviews she felt hurt by the comment and would rather meet a different president and first lady. "We'll go to the Obamas. We'll see Michelle. We'll see Barack," she told the podcast "Paper Route."

President Biden, who made congratulatory phone calls to the coaches of the men's and women's champions, also dialed Reese, who ultimately said she would accept a White House invitation. On Friday, the president joked that the team, which has reloaded this offseason, would be back in the East Room next year.

"I'm going to turn this over to you," President Biden said as he prepared to introduce Mulkey to deliver brief remarks. "Again, I want to congratulate you. I assume I'll be seeing you next year and [the] next year."

About two hours later, President Biden welcomed the Connecticut men's team in a less eventful affair. He recounted the Huskies' run from dark horse to national champion and received a team jersey from captains Adama Sanogo and Andre Jackson Jr. Biden also reiterated his request for a Reese-Hawkins match on the South Lawn.

"I hosted the LSU women's team earlier today for their championship title. Jordan, I heard you and your cousin Angel played one-on-one growing up," Biden said. ". . . So I've set up a basketball court on the South Lawn. There's a court down there by the tennis courts. And Jordan, your uncle thinks he can take you as well, so I just want you to know that after this we're all going down to see that one-on-one game."

Injury doesn't stop Sallade from chasing another title

VIRGINIA FROM D1

around the graduate student quickly learned it was not a successful strategy.

"Everyone's going: 'Okay, Grayson's on the field, be careful — no, Grayson's hitting you, Grayson's covering you, taking the ball and running the other way. What the heck, I thought he was hurt right now?' " Dickson said. "Everyone was in shock and everyone was super-excited because we knew that was a huge piece of our team we needed back."

The injury also provided an opportunity for another kind of development. Sallade always viewed himself as a lead-by-example type, and his work with the Cavaliers in the fall required him to lead more from the side because he couldn't participate in practice.

Now back in his more accustomed on-field role, Sallade is a driving force in the Cavaliers' locker room.

"He is *the* captain," Coach Lars Tiffany said. "We have four. . . . No matter whether you have two, three or four captains, you always have one man you really lean on, one man who has the pulse of the team, one man who speaks truth to power, the backbone to make the tough conversations happen with me, and that's Grayson. And he's done that for two years now."

Tiffany likens Sallade's influence to the impact Dave Smith had during Virginia's 2019 championship run and the influence John Fox wielded during the Cavaliers' 2021 charge to a pandemic-interrupted repeat.

Both Smith and Fox were also short-stick defensive midfielders, one of the more anonymous positions in the sport but also massively important to thwarting opposing offenses.

It's not a position where Sallade, who first committed to Virginia in 2014 before Tiffany took over for Dom Starsia, had plans to craft a legacy when he arrived in Charlottesville.

"I had hopes as a young first-year coming in, but I think the coaches had other thoughts probably before then that they didn't tell me," Sallade said. "Within the first month or so I was fully D-mid."

Sallade has made a habit of drawing attention with his work on the final weekend of the season. As a freshman in 2019, he missed more than two months before returning to play in the semifinals and title game as Virginia broke an eight-year title drought. Two years later, he collected a career-high eight groundballs in a semifinal defeat of North Carolina.

Those title runs have earned Sallade an appreciation of how a championship team is supposed to evolve as it delves deep into May. And he likes what he sees with the Cavaliers as he enters the final weekend of his college career.

"Coach Tiffany has talked about how we're loose because we've prepared so much and we know how it's supposed to look because of the experience on this team," Sallade said. "Other teams might be a little tight and grip their stick a little harder. We're a little more loose and have a little more fun. Our preparation and experience has allowed us to really enjoy making the Final Four."

Men and women are donning their armor to have at it

MEDIEVAL FROM D1

seem like it would be the epitome of the human condition," says Megan Ganley, 26, captain of the women's team for Iron Lions United in the D.C. metropolitan area. "But it becomes a Zen comfort as you begin pushing your limits and embracing the intensity."

Medieval armored combat — or buhurt, from the Old French word *béhourd,* meaning "to wallop" — traces its history back more than a thousand years to feudal Europe, where knights would take part in peacetime clashes to stay in shape and test their skills. Today's contests may showcase one-on-one sword fighting, with points awarded based on where blows land, or no-holds-barred melees between two teams — sometimes involving 30 or more players — in which the last person left standing is the winner.

Rounds typically last just a few minutes, with one minute of rest in between, so that players don't run out of steam.

As the sport has taken root in the United States, it has attracted a range of fans, from self-described medieval history nerds to martial arts enthusiasts.

"The people who tend to stick with the sport are the high school athletes who played 'Dungeons & Dragons' with their friends," says Brennon Meiners, 41, captain of the Dallas Warlords and a 2019 national gold medalist in sword and buckler — a category in which a one-handed sword is used in combination with a small shield, or buckler, to deflect and punch.

As a teen, Meiners had gotten into role-play combat. He then switched to a type of martial art fighting that features rattan sticks. A video about armored fighting inspired him to try something new several years ago. "I saw that video and thought, 'I totally want to get hit in the face with an ax,' " he laughs.

BRIAN BRANCH-PRICE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

The sport of medieval armored combat called buhurt is spreading globally, with leagues, international competitions and prize money.

The face is actually protected by a full steel helmet, albeit one weighing 10 pounds and lined with anti-concussion foam. Players say they barely feel the impact of the blunted weapons against their armor because they're focused on simply staying upright.

"The fatigue level in armor is a ratio of one-to-five," says Zorikh Lequidre, 54, one of the sport's first American competitors and now a trainer, coach and announcer for Gladiators NYC events. "Take an athlete who wears themselves out in five minutes, mostly naked because they are just wearing shorts, then put them in armor. They won't last more than one minute."

Yet the allure of armor has attracted an increasingly diverse group of participants across race, gender and sexual identity lines.

"The sport is historically White and male," says D'Ondre Cyrus, the 36-year-old president of the American Medieval Combat Federation, "but we understand that representation matters."

Cyrus is a member of the Dallas Warlords as well as the Knights of Wakanda, an African American team of about 20 that pulls from across the country and comes together for events. "When you're out there fighting," he says, "no one can tell who is inside that armor. Then you take off your helmet, and you've got little Black kids asking if they can be knights, too."

More women are suiting up, too. "It's a classically masculine space," Ganley says, "but it's also a sport still in its infancy, so it allows women and nonbinary people a place to discover the kind of person you want to be within it. I had a queer reckoning of my own that was just really fulfilled by the sport."

Brooke Sileikis, 28, found a passion and a profession when she got involved with a local New Jersey team during the pandemic. She then started the New Jersey Steel Fighting Academy this year with her husband as a positive and safe place for people to train. They have about 22 members in practice twice a week.

"I like to be a girly girl, but I also like to roll around in the mud and hit people with weapons," Sileikis says. "I experienced a lot of sexism when I first started in the sport, so I wanted to reframe that negative experience. Medieval armored combat is an escape for a lot of people, a way to heal from past traumas."

It's a common story, one that resonates with 35-year-old Orlando Mendez. He was reeling from a bad breakup a decade ago when he decided to visit a Renaissance fair.

"I always wanted to be a knight and play with swords and wear armor," he says, "and I see this one knight run across the field so fast and throw down this guy twice his size, and I was fascinated by it. A year later, I was one of the fighters on the field, not a spectator, and I won every fight. My family was there screaming, and I thought, 'This is what I want.' And I never looked back."

Now you'll find Mendez with Gladiators NYC in Central Park and at matches across the country, intent on outwitting his opponents while still cheering them on if they get the best of him.

"We're getting people into armor and building a community," he says. "It's really incredibly cool."

GOLF

As Block became a star, his California club soaked it all in

BY CHUCK CULPEPPER

MISSION VIEJO, CALIF. — Sport, the world's greatest connector of humans, has struck again lately out in the world and just off the venerable Interstate 5 freeway. It has taken a busy golf club and ratcheted up the bustle. It has clogged the parking lot, jazzed up the restaurant chitchat and frazzled the phone lines, with some of the incoming calls suddenly international. It has taken a Sunday in May in a restaurant bar and made it indelible. It has caused "different vibes just coming to work," as said a voice from a crucial vantage point.

The voice belongs, after all, to the bartender.

He's the bartender whose name came up Sunday in a PGA Championship news conference about 2,600 miles away in Rochester, N.Y. He's that indispensable bartender who sees a face and knows a drink order straightaway. He's Armando Vilchez, the Peruvian American who has worked for 16 years in O'Neill's Bar & Grill at this Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club and who goes back all that time with Michael Block, the 46-year-old who stirred something in souls far and wide when he posted the third-best finish by any of the PGA teaching pros who have played the PGA Championship as an annual ritual and notched his tie for 15th while treating fans on the Oak Hill course to a lavish distribution of high-fives and fist-bumps.

"This," Vilchez said by phone, for it was his day off during a reporter's visit, "is the greatest experience I've ever had working at the golf courses. I've worked for golf courses for 26 years."

"Armando serves a fantastic cocktail," Block had said in Rochester while describing this Southern California club where he is head pro, after his 70-70-70-71 (1 over par) included his wowing, dunking, cup-ripping hole-in-one on No. 15. It's deeper than a cocktail, of course, for Block clearly counts as a man beloved. If there's manufactured fondness out there in some places for some people, those places don't include this place and this person.

"Such a great person, such a nice human being," Vilchez said.

"The best," said Madison Butler, a PGA pro who teaches here and who made a career leap going independent last year partly because she knew being around Block would help.

"I mean, he is the best," said Blake Hayes, the assistant pro who sometimes handles either the golf shop or Block's black Labrador retriever, Messi, or both.

"That's who he is," Vilchez said of Block's effusive, sometimes emotional, interviews. "He's 100 percent natural. He's like one of us."

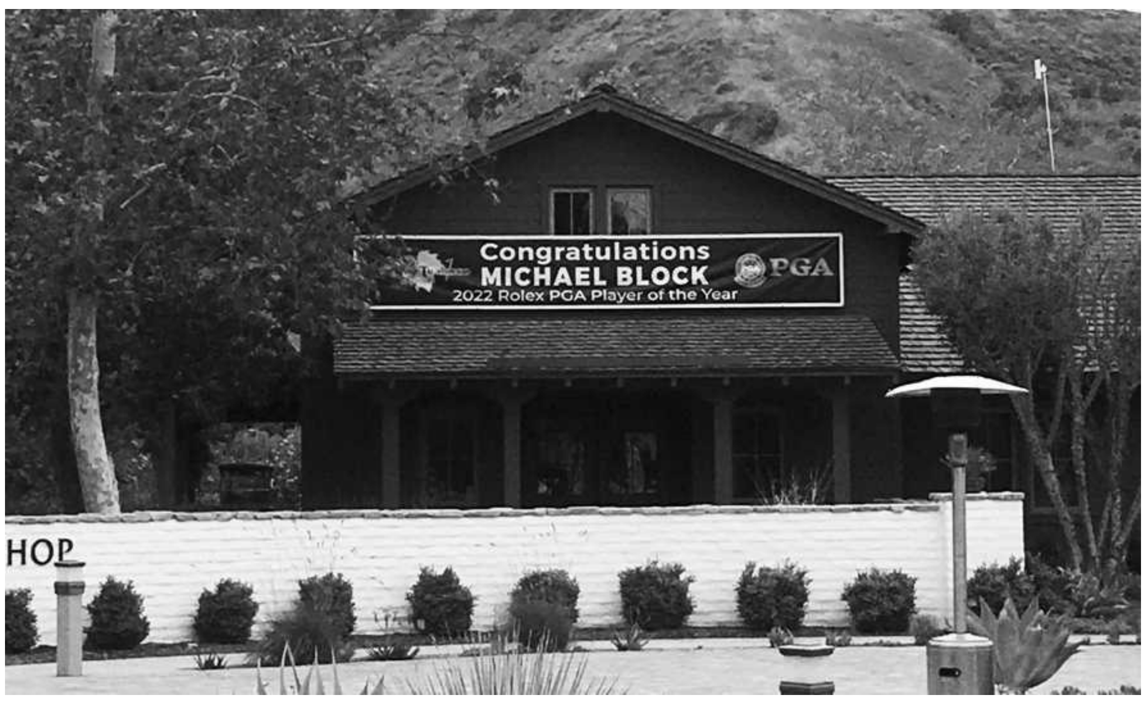
"And that's why it's so wild that this has happened," Butler said. "It's wild because you guys are seeing what we're seeing every day. . . . He's not just doing this for the cameras."

How many club pros, once they've wriggled into PGA Tour events as Block did last winter in San Diego and the California desert, stir a club bartender to follow him around for 36 holes in support? "He came so close to making the cut" at Torrey Pines in January, Vilchez said, and his miss — by three shots — made it 15 straight missed cuts amid the sprinkling of 24 PGA Tour events he'd played across 16 years. "I said, 'Michael, one of these days, man.' "

Arroyo Trabuco, as Hayes points out, boasts an untroubled setting for a place in Orange County barely a mile off the freeway that runs from San Diego clear to Seattle (and beyond). It's behind Saddleback College and up against the hills. It has frequent deer and the occasional rattlesnake.

A banner for Block shouts at anyone walking up at late afternoon on a Tuesday, but it has nothing to do with what just happened. It congratulates him as the 2022 Rolex PGA player of the year, itself a national nod. A shop shelf above the shirts holds four golf bags with MICHAEL BLOCK on them, reaped from the wealth of tournaments he has played at various levels and suddenly upgraded as curiosities.

The restaurant rollicks a tad more than you might think. The Napa Salad for $20 soars even if the striped sea bass for $44 might have soared even more. The electronic board behind the bar lists 12 draft beers beginning with



CHUCK CULPEPPER/THE WASHINGTON POST

JONATHAN BACHMAN/GETTY IMAGES

Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club in Mission Viejo, Calif., has reveled in the success of Michael Block, its head pro. Block, who tied for 15th at the PGA Championship, was still smiling at the Colonial on Thursday.

Liquid Gravity Orange Cream Machine.

A hopeful weekend beckons, because Block, a husband and the father of two teenage sons who flat-out can play themselves, has made a detour from Rochester to Mission Viejo. He's gone to the Colonial in Fort Worth on a sponsor's exemption that came out of both sponsors and nowhere. "If I sit down and think about it too much," Block told reporters Tuesday in Fort Worth, "I'm not sure I could swing the club on Thursday."

They were watching at O'Neill's on Thursday, but to have been there on Sunday, the 21st of May in 2023, would have been to yammer for a good long time about having been there then.

"Wall to wall," Hayes said. "People back to back. You could not move. It was just very electric. Especially after he hit the hole-in-one. . . . It took everyone a couple seconds to realize it, because it just went" — dived — "in the hole." Then: "People jumping up and down, hugging each other, high-fives all around."

Vilchez wasn't there, actually, until he was.

"My son turned 21 that day," he said. "I took it off. In the middle of the day, I took my son out to buy some beverages for his birthday. I have two older boys, too [26 and 25]. I said, 'Let's go to Arroyo.' "

So: "When I drove in, there were no spots to park." Five minutes later came the hole-in-one.

"He hits the ball, and the ball goes up in the sky," Vilchez said. "It's gone. It's like magic. It disappeared. And I go, 'What?' I hear people cheering. . . . Oh, my God. It was like winning the World Cup.

"To me," Vilchez said, "it was very emotional. I go, 'Wow, dreams come true.' No words to describe how I really feel. And my kids, how they experienced this, they said: 'Oh, Dad. Dad, you know these people.' Yes, I work here 16 years. I can tell you what each person wants to drink."

On TV, Block enchanted people. Now they call from abroad with media requests or with unprecedented requests: *Can I buy some Arroyo Trabuco apparel online?* (Not yet, but they're getting to it.)

"When he's out there playing and doing so well," Hayes said, "people out in the crowd think, 'He's one of us.' "

Then Hayes and Butler, standing in the golf shop, make another point: Block might be a guy so bamboozled at playing alongside Justin Rose on a major Saturday that he can't look at Rose's face for the first three holes, but he's also seasoned in a different way: "He's a regular guy, yes," Butler said, "but he's been representing the PGA of America for many years" — at many events, thus his bounty of Southern California titles and his 59 at Arroyo Trabuco and his 58 at Coto de Caza.

He knew how to play his game and not somebody else's, Hayes emphasized, a vital distinction when among a group of somebody elses people yearn to imitate. He long since knew the ground once the clouds beckoned and the text came from Michael Jordan, whom he does not know (unlike friend Albert Pujols or habitual playing partners Patrick Cantlay and Beau Hossler, whom he does).

He still knew that ground Thursday when, over in Fort Worth, he hit it again, double-bogeying Nos. 15, 16 and 18 to close out a reality of an 81, then saying, "It's one of those days of golf," then consoling himself with thoughts he'd be home by Saturday because, for one thing, sport has struck again, and this homecoming is going to be really something.

Still basking in PGA win, Koepka copes with equipment issues in LIV return

BY GENE WANG

Brooks Koepka sauntered up the fairway to the No. 1 tee box Friday afternoon at Trump National Golf Club in Sterling, site of this week's LIV Golf debut in the Washington metropolitan area, waving to a crowd shouting his name as "Welcome to the Jungle" blared over the sound system.

Wearing a white polo and cap and blue shorts, he had a gait belonging to someone seemingly without a care less than a week removed from winning the PGA Championship. Then he pulled an iron out of his black bag, set his golf ball on a tee and launched his first shot in a tournament since claiming a fifth major title.

So it went over the next four holes until he struck his tee shot at No. 6, a 445-yard par-4, and began inspecting the face of his driver. Koepka noticed a small crack on the club head, and suddenly the leisurely walk brimmed with concern.

He managed to regroup, however, on the back nine, where he eventually deployed a fresh driver and carded a pair of birdies to finish even-par 72, eight shots behind leader Harold Varner III at the 54-hole tournament with 12 teams of four players.

ROB CARR/GETTY IMAGES

Brooks Koepka finished eight shots behind leader Harold Varner III on Friday at Trump National.

"It feels like you're hitting a marshmallow, honestly," Koepka said. "It's a weird feeling. Feels like you're hitting it on the bottom half of the club. I don't know how much damage [is enough to be allowed a replacement], or whatever word they used. It's just weird."

Koepka continued to examine the club on the sixth hole before pulling out his cellphone. His caddie, Ricky Elliott, also was having a conversation on his cellphone, and shortly thereafter a member of Koepka's team delivered a new driver to the No. 6 green.

But before Koepka could break in the new equipment, a rules official informed the first player to participate in a LIV Golf tournament immediately after winning a major championship that he wasn't permitted to replace the driver at that time.

The official informed Koepka the damage needed to be "significant" to be permitted a replacement club. After the conversation, Koepka gave the backup driver to another member of his team to keep close by.

At the tee at No. 7, Koepka had the compromised club in hand as he stared down the fairway of the 583-yard par 5, the longest hole on the front nine of a layout that covers almost 7,700 yards and requires even the game's mightiest hitters — of whom Koepka is one — to use a driver.

His tee ball at the seventh drifted right almost instantly after contact and landed in the second cut of rough, making the bear of a hole all the more demanding. Koepka made par, then missed the fairway again at Nos. 8 and 9, directing his gaze at his driver face with each errant swipe.

"Golf's a little bit behind the times in ruling," he said. "Like, if it's cracked, just replace it. If you damage it, you're, I get it, out of anger or anything like that. I don't know. You know it's broken. Everybody agreed on that. It's just the rule."

Relief finally materialized for Koepka in the fairway at No. 11, when he again approached the same rules official to show the club had taken on more damage. This time Koepka was granted the replacement driver, and he proceeded to uncork one of his best drives of the round.

Still, the equipment malfunction was but a blip during a week in which Koepka has been living his best life since the PGA.

Before arriving in Northern Virginia, Koepka spent Monday night cheering on his hometown Florida Panthers in the Stanley Cup playoffs in Sunrise, Fla. Koepka wore a Panthers jersey and sat in a box with the Wanamaker Trophy.

The next night, he sat courtside with wife Jena Sims at Kaseya Center in Miami for Game 4 of the NBA's Eastern Conference finals between the Heat and the Boston Celtics.

"It's just part of it, right, just getting back to somewhat of a normal routine," said Koepka, who arrived Thursday to play the course for the first time in the pro-am. "It was good just to play golf and kind of get it out of the way. Hopefully play better the next few days knowing the golf course a little bit more, know where to hit it, where to miss it."

Sunday's win at Oak Hill was Koepka's first major triumph since the 2019 PGA Championship. His three PGA Championships (tying him with Gene Sarazen and Sam Snead) leave him behind only Walter Hagen and Jack Nicklaus, each with five, and Tiger Woods with four.

Koepka also trails only Woods and Phil Mickelson, one of the earliest and highest-profile defectors to LIV Golf, in major championship victories since 1990.

"I think Cam [Smith] said it best at Augusta. He said, 'It's important for the LIV guys to show up,' " Varner said of the impact of Koepka's win at a major. "It's not about just getting in. I thought that was really good. It helped me just get my mind right, like we're here to play well. It's kind of cool when you're not playing for just yourself."

ROUNDUP

Stanford's Zhang is turning pro after earning her second straight NCAA title

FROM STAFF REPORTS AND NEWS SERVICES

On the heels of a record-setting amateur career capped this week by a second straight NCAA individual women's championship, Rose Zhang announced Friday she will turn professional, a move that brings immediate American star power to the LPGA Tour.

Zhang's eagerly anticipated announcement, according to officials in the amateur and professional ranks of women's golf, had been in the works for only a few days after the Stanford all-American became the first woman to claim consecutive NCAA titles.

"Wow… it's finally happening," Zhang posted to her Instagram page. "I am excited to announce that I am officially turning professional next week! The endless love, support and inspiration from so many people brought me to this point of my golf career."

Zhang is scheduled to play in her first tournament as a pro at next week's Americas Open at Liberty National Golf Club in Jersey City, courtesy of an exemption.

The U.S. Golf Association also provided Zhang an exemption into the U.S. Women's Open, which will be held at Pebble Beach Golf Links, beginning July 6.

Zhang received an additional exemption into August's Women's British Open at Walton Heath Golf Club in Surrey, England.

— Gene Wang

Hole-in-one boosts English

Harris English quipped to his caddie that no one is beating him at Colonial's par-3 eighth hole, which is true after he followed his birdie in the opening round with a hole-in-one Friday. There is only one player ahead of him on the overall Charles Schwab Challenge leader board in Fort Worth.

PGA Tour rookie Harry Hall from England maintained the solo lead through 36 holes at 12-under-par 128, making a spectacular save from the sand at that same par-3, for a three-stroke lead over English. After opening with an 8-under 62, Hall had four consecutive birdies midway through his second-round 66.

Michael Block, the 46-year-old club pro from California who became a sensation for everyday golfers by tying for 15th on Sunday in the PGA Championship at Oak Hill, was last in the 120-player Colonial field at 15-over 155.

• **LPGA TOUR:** Anna Nordqvist had all three of her matches go the distance, and only a clutch wedge kept her from playing even more as she was among 16 players who advanced out of group play in the LPGA Match Play in North Las Vegas, Nev.

Nordqvist would have faced a three-way playoff if she lost to Andrea Lee. That appeared likely when the Swede hit into the creek in front of the 18th green at Shadow Creek while Lee was on the green some 50 feet from the hole. But Lee three-putted for bogey to halve the match.

• **PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS:** Stewart Cink, in his first tournament after turning 50, shot a second consecutive 4-under 68 and trailed Padraig Harrington by four shots after the second round of the Senior PGA Championship in Frisco, Tex.

Harrington followed his opening 64 with a bogey-free 68 and was at 12-under 132. Japan's Katsumasa Miyamoto was three behind Harrington in his tournament debut after a 69.

• **DP WORLD TOUR:** Jorge Campillo saw his lead in the KLM Open trimmed to two strokes after shooting 1-under 71.

A day after making 10 birdies in an opening-round 63 to gain a three-shot lead, the Spaniard was efficient rather than spectacular around Bernardus Golf in Cromvoirt, Netherlands, in picking up strokes on the fourth and 15th holes.

— Associated Press

BASEBALL

National League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Atlanta	31	20	.608	—	5-5	L-1
New York	27	25	.519	4½	7-3	W-2
x-Miami	25	26	.490	6	5-5	L-1
Philadelphia	24	27	.471	7	4-6	W-1
Washington	22	29	.431	9	4-6	W-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Milwaukee	27	24	.529	—	4-6	L-2
x-Pittsburgh	25	24	.510	1	4-6	L-2
Chicago	22	28	.440	4½	3-7	L-2
St. Louis	23	30	.434	5	6-4	L-1
Cincinnati	22	29	.431	5	4-6	W-1

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Los Angeles	31	21	.596	—	4-6	L-2
x-Arizona	29	21	.580	1	7-3	L-1
San Francisco	26	25	.510	4½	8-2	W-2
San Diego	24	27	.471	6½	5-5	W-2
Colorado	22	30	.423	9	4-6	L-1

x-Late game

American League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Tampa Bay	38	15	.717	—	6-4	W-3
Baltimore	33	18	.647	4	7-3	L-1
New York	30	23	.566	8	6-4	L-3
x-Boston	26	24	.520	10½	4-6	L-4
Toronto	27	25	.519	10½	3-7	W-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Minnesota	26	25	.510	—	3-7	L-1
Detroit	23	26	.469	2	5-5	L-1
Cleveland	22	28	.440	3½	3-7	W-1
Chicago	22	31	.415	5	7-3	W-1
Kansas City	15	37	.288	11½	3-7	L-2

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Texas	32	18	.640	—	7-3	W-3
x-Houston	28	21	.571	3½	8-2	L-2
x-Los Angeles	28	23	.549	4½	7-3	W-4
x-Seattle	26	24	.520	6	6-4	W-4
x-Oakland	10	42	.192	23	1-9	L-8

x-Late game

Nationals 12, Royals 10

NATIONALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Thomas rf	5	2	1	1	1	2	.290
García 2b	6	3	6	2	0	0	.288
Meneses dh	5	2	3	3	1	0	.305
Candelario 3b	5	2	1	2	1	2	.257
Dickerson lf	3	1	1	3	1	0	.304
S.Garrett pr-lf	2	0	2	1	0	0	.261
Ruiz c	5	0	0	0	1	1	.227
Smith 1b	4	0	0	0	1	1	.275
Call cf	3	1	0	0	2	0	.215
Abrams ss	3	1	1	0	1	0	.239
TOTALS	41	12	15	12	9	6	—

ROYALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Duffy 2b	2	1	1	0	2	0	.313
Massey ph-2b	0	1	0	0	1	0	.215
Pasquantino 1b	5	0	1	0	0	0	.260
Perez dh	5	1	2	3	0	1	.283
Witt Jr. ss	5	3	4	5	0	0	.241
Melendez rf	3	1	1	0	2	1	.209
Olivares lf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.230
Pratto ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.289
Fermin c	5	0	0	0	0	2	.244
Garcia 3b	5	1	2	1	0	2	.288
Waters cf	4	2	2	0	0	2	.500
TOTALS	39	10	13	9	5	9	—

WASHINGTON 100 008 030 — 12 15 1
KANSAS CITY . 000 201 520 — 10 13 0

E: Ruiz (3). **LOB:** Washington 12, Kansas City 7. **2B:** García 2 (7), Meneses (13), Witt Jr. (8), Garcia (7), Perez (12). **3B:** Candelario (2). **HR:** Thomas (8), off Lyles; Dickerson (2), off Lyles; Witt Jr. (8), off Corbin; Witt Jr. (9), off Ramírez. **RBI:** Thomas (26), Meneses 3 (28), Dickerson 3 (7), García 2 (20), Candelario 2 (22), S.Garrett (9), Garcia (10), Witt Jr. 5 (25), Perez 3 (31). **SB:** S.Garrett (2).

NATIONALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Corbin	6⅓	7	6	6	4	6	108	4.88
Ramírez	0	3	2	2	0	0	9	5.92
Edwards Jr.	1	2	2	2	1	1	28	2.91
Kuhl	1⅔	1	0	0	0	2	21	8.06

ROYALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Lyles	5	6	5	5	3	2	98	7.30
Staumont	1	3	4	4	2	1	33	4.96
A.Garrett	1	0	0	0	3	1	28	3.15
Cuas	1	4	3	3	1	2	36	5.16
Wittgren	1	2	0	0	0	0	14	6.00

WP: Corbin (4-5); **LP:** Lyles (0-9); **S:** Kuhl (1). Ramírez pitched to 3 batters in the 7th **Inherited runners-scored:** Ramírez 3-3, Edwards Jr. 1-0, Kuhl 3-2. **HBP:** Cuas (Abrams). **WP:** Edwards Jr.. **T:** 3:12. **A:** 15,878 (38,427).

HOW THEY SCORED

NATIONALS FIRST
Lane Thomas homers. Luis Garcia singles. Joey Meneses walks. Jeimer Candelario pops out. Corey Dickerson grounds out.
Nationals 1, Royals 0
ROYALS FOURTH
Bobby Witt Jr. doubles. MJ Melendez walks. **Bobby Witt Jr. steals third base, MJ Melendez steals second base, throwing error by catcher Keibert Ruiz, Witt Jr. scores.** Edward Olivares strikes out swinging. Freddy Fermin grounds out. **Maikel Garcia doubles, MJ Melendez scores.** Drew Waters strikes out swinging.
Royals 2, Nationals 1
NATIONALS SIXTH
Luis Garcia doubles. **Joey Meneses doubles, Luis Garcia scores. Jeimer Candelario walks. Corey Dickerson homers, Jeimer Candelario scores, Joey Meneses scores.** Keibert Ruiz grounds out. Dominic Smith flies out. Alex Call walks. CJ Abrams singles, advances to second. Alex Call to third. Lane Thomas walks. **Luis Garcia doubles, Lane Thomas to third, CJ Abrams scores, Alex Call scores. Joey Meneses singles, Luis Garcia scores, Lane Thomas scores.** Jeimer Candelario strikes out swinging.
Nationals 9, Royals 2
ROYALS SIXTH
Bobby Witt Jr. homers. MJ Melendez grounds out. Edward Olivares grounds out. Freddy Fermin strikes out swinging.
Nationals 9, Royals 3
ROYALS SEVENTH
Maikel Garcia singles. Drew Waters singles. Maikel Garcia to second. Matt Duffy walks. Drew Waters to second. Maikel Garcia to third. Vinnie Pasquantino pops out. **Salvador Perez doubles, Matt Duffy to third, Drew Waters scores, Maikel Garcia scores. Bobby Witt Jr. homers, Salvador Perez scores, Matt Duffy scores.** MJ Melendez singles. Edward Olivares flies out. Freddy Fermin grounds out.
Nationals 9, Royals 8
NATIONALS EIGHTH
Luis Garcia singles. Joey Meneses singles. Luis Garcia to third. **Jeimer Candelario triples, Joey Meneses scores, Luis Garcia scores. Stone Garrett singles, Jeimer Candelario scores.** Keibert Ruiz strikes out swinging. Dominic Smith strikes out swinging. Alex Call walks. CJ Abrams hit by pitch. Alex Call to second. Stone Garrett to third. Lane Thomas grounds out.
Nationals 12, Royals 8
ROYALS EIGHTH
Maikel Garcia called out on strikes. Drew Waters singles. Michael Massey pinch-hitting for Matt Duffy. Michael Massey walks. Drew Waters to second. Vinnie Pasquantino singles. Michael Massey to second. **Drew Waters to third. Salvador Perez singles, Vinnie Pasquantino to second, Michael Massey to third, Drew Waters scores. Bobby Witt Jr. reaches on a fielder's choice, Nicky Lopez out at second, Vinnie Pasquantino to third, Michael Massey scores.** MJ Melendez strikes out swinging.
Nationals 12, Royals 10

Reds 9, Cubs 0

Hunter Greene threw six hitless innings, and Cincinnati came within six outs of the first no-hitter of the season in a win over Chicago.

Greene matched a career high with 11 strikeouts in picking up his first win in 11 starts this season.

There have been 17 no-hitters thrown by the Reds.

REDS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
India 2b	4	0	0	1	0	0	.283
Benson lf	1	0	1	0	0	0	.077
McLain ss	5	1	3	0	1	0	.325
Steer 1b	6	1	3	1	0	1	.285
Stephenson dh	5	1	3	2	0	1	.251
Senzel lf-3b	5	0	1	1	0	3	.254
Fairchild rf	4	2	3	0	1	1	.252
Newman 3b-2b	4	1	2	1	1	2	.265
Barrero cf	5	2	2	1	0	1	.230
Casali c	4	1	1	2	0	2	.149
TOTALS	43	9	19	9	3	11	—

CUBS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Hoerner 2b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.289
Swanson ss	3	0	0	0	0	2	.260
Ríos 3b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.087
Tauchman cf	3	0	0	0	1	1	.235
Happ lf	3	0	0	0	1	0	.284
Mancini dh	3	0	0	0	0	2	.252
Morel rf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.333
Mervis 1b	3	0	0	0	0	2	.200
Mastrobuoni 3b-ss	3	0	1	0	0	2	.175
Barnhart c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.179
TOTALS	29	0	2	0	2	12	—

CINCINNATI ... 201 310 002 — 9 19 0
CHICAGO .... 000 000 000 — 0 2 2

E: Tauchman (1), Steele (1). **LOB:** Cincinnati 12, Chicago 4. **2B:** Stephenson (9), Newman 2 (5), Fairchild 2 (10), Steer (14), Barrero (8). **3B:** Steer (2).

REDS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Greene	6	0	0	0	2	11	4.18
Salazar	2	2	0	0	0	0	3.00
Cruz	1	0	0	0	0	1	6.14

CUBS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Steele	3⅔	10	6	5	0	4	2.77
Merryweather	1⅓	2	1	1	0	3	5.03
Assad	3⅔	7	2	2	3	4	4.98
Alzolay	⅓	0	0	0	0	0	2.62

WP: Greene (1-4); **LP:** Steele (6-2). **Inherited runners-scored:** Merryweather 2-0, Alzolay 3-0. **T:** 2:41. **A:** 31,946 (41,363).

JAMIE SABAU/GETTY IMAGES

A Morel victory

A line-drive single by Christopher Morel on the first pitch of the eighth inning ended the Reds' no-hit bid. That was one of the few bright spots for the Cubs in a 9-0 home loss to last-place Cincinnati on Friday.

White Sox 12, Tigers 3

Andrew Vaughn hit a two-run homer and drove in three runs, Yoan Moncada also had three RBI, and Chicago routed Detroit.

Lance Lynn allowed three runs on three hits and five walks while striking out five in six innings.

Joey Wentz gave up five runs in four innings.

WHITE SOX	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Anderson ss	5	3	4	1	1	0	.264
Benintendi lf	5	1	2	1	1	0	.275
Robert Jr. cf	3	1	0	0	1	0	.263
Haseley cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.222
Moncada 3b	5	1	3	3	0	1	.284
González 2b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.189
Vaughn 1b	5	2	2	3	0	1	.237
Grandal c	5	0	1	2	0	1	.277
Burger dh	5	2	2	0	0	0	.259
Frazier rf	5	1	2	0	0	1	.333
Alberto 2b-3b	5	1	1	2	0	1	.218
TOTALS	43	12	17	12	3	5	—

TIGERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
McKinstry 3b	2	1	1	0	3	1	.274
Greene cf	5	0	1	0	0	1	.295
Báez ss	4	0	0	0	0	1	.236
Ibáñez 2b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.171
Torkelson 1b	3	1	0	0	0	1	.238
Maton 2b-ss	3	1	0	0	1	0	.163
Baddoo lf	3	0	1	1	1	0	.259
Cabrera dh	3	0	0	1	1	1	.170
Vierling rf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.247
Rogers c	3	0	0	0	1	1	.156
TOTALS	30	3	3	2	7	7	—

CHICAGO .... 310 130 031 — 12 17 1
DETROIT .... 100 002 000 — 3 3 1

E: Alberto (4), Rogers (2). **LOB:** Chicago 8, Detroit 8. **2B:** Vaughn (14), Burger (7), Greene (8). **3B:** Benintendi (1), Frazier (1), Moncada (1). **HR:** Vaughn (6), off Englert.

WHITE SOX	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Lynn	6	3	3	1	5	5	5.83
Middleton	1	0	0	0	0	2	1.65
López	1	0	0	0	1	0	6.33
Lambert	1	0	0	0	1	0	5.31

TIGERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Wentz	4	6	5	5	2	4	7.80
Englert	2	4	3	3	1	0	5.16
Alexander	2	4	3	3	0	1	7.04
Short	1	3	1	1	0	0	9.00

WP: Lynn (4-5); **LP:** Wentz (1-5). **HBP:** Lynn (Torkelson). **T:** 2:41. **A:** 21,701 (41,083).

NOTES

YANKEES' BOONE GETS ONE-GAME BAN, FINE

Yankees Manager Aaron Boone was suspended for one game and fined an undisclosed amount Friday "for his recent conduct toward major league umpires."

Boone was ejected for an MLB-high fourth time this season against the Orioles on Thursday. He appeared to get spit on an umpire while yelling after he was tossed.

PERSONNEL DEPT.

Angels: Selected the contract of RHP Sam Bachman.

Dodgers: LHP Clayton Kershaw is set to start Saturday against the Rays after being activated from the bereavement list.

Reds: Placed OF Wil Myers (kidney stone) on the 10-day injured list and activated RHP Fernando Cruz from the 15-day IL.

Yankees: Released OF Aaron Hicks with more than 2½ seasons left on his contract.

TODAY

Interleague games

NATIONALS AT ROYALS, 4:10	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Gray (R)	4-5	2.65	4-6
Singer (R)	3-4	7.48	5-5
PADRES AT YANKEES, 1:05			
Wacha (R)	5-1	3.58	7-2
Severino (R)	0-0	1.93	1-0
DODGERS AT RAYS, 4:10			
Kershaw (L)	6-4	2.98	6-4
Glasnow (R)	0-0	0.00	0-0
PIRATES AT MARINERS, 4:10			
Contreras (R)	3-4	4.50	4-5
Castillo (R)	3-2	2.96	5-5
RED SOX AT DIAMONDBACKS, 7:15			
Whitlock (R)	1-2	6.19	1-2
TBD	----	----	----
CARDINALS AT GUARDIANS, 7:15			
Flaherty (R)	3-4	5.29	6-4
Bibee (R)	1-1	3.18	2-3
MARLINS AT ANGELS, 10:07			
Cabrera (R)	3-4	5.05	5-5
Ohtani (R)	5-1	3.05	8-2

Interleague scores

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
No games scheduled.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Washington 12, at Kansas City 10
at Tampa Bay 9, L.A. Dodgers 3
at Cleveland 4, St. Louis 3
San Diego 5, at N.Y. Yankees 1
Miami at L.A. Angels, late
Boston at Arizona, late
Pittsburgh at Seattle, late

AL games

RANGERS AT ORIOLES, 4:05	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Heaney (L)	3-3	4.12	5-4
Kremer (R)	5-1	4.61	7-3
WHITE SOX AT TIGERS, 1:10			
TBD	----	----	----
Lorenzen (R)	2-2	4.08	4-3
BLUE JAYS AT TWINS, 2:10			
Bassitt (R)	5-3	3.03	6-4
López (R)	2-3	3.90	5-5
ASTROS AT ATHLETICS, 4:07			
Valdez (L)	4-4	2.46	5-5
TBD	----	----	----

AL scores

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Baltimore 3, at N.Y. Yankees 1
at Tampa Bay 6, Toronto 3
at Detroit 7, Chicago White Sox 2
at Seattle 3, Oakland 2

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Texas 12, at Baltimore 2
Chicago White Sox 12, at Detroit 3
at Minnesota 3, Toronto 1
Houston at Oakland, late

NL games

PHILLIES AT BRAVES, 4:10	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Wheeler (R)	3-4	4.10	5-5
Morton (R)	5-4	3.61	5-4
GIANTS AT BREWERS, 4:10			
Webb (R)	3-5	2.91	3-7
Burnes (R)	4-4	3.97	5-5
REDS AT CUBS, 7:15			
Williamson (L)	0-0	3.60	2-0
Taillon (R)	0-3	8.10	0-7
METS AT ROCKIES, 9:10			
Verlander (R)	2-2	3.60	2-2
Anderson (R)	0-0	1.15	1-1

NL scores

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
San Diego 8, at Washington 6
St. Louis 2, at Cincinnati 1
at Colorado 7, Miami 6
at Atlanta 8, Philadelphia 5
N.Y. Mets 10, at Chicago Cubs 1
San Francisco 5, at Milwaukee 0

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Cincinnati 9, at Chicago Cubs 0
Philadelphia 6, at Atlanta 4
San Francisco 15, at Milwaukee 1
N.Y. Mets 5, at Colorado 2

Rays 9, Dodgers 3

Cooper Criswell earned his first big league win and Yandy Díaz homered and drove in two runs as major league-best Tampa Bay beat Los Angeles in their first meeting since the 2020 World Series.

DODGERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Betts rf	3	1	0	0	2	1	.251
Freeman 1b	4	1	2	0	1	1	.329
Smith c	3	0	2	1	1	0	.325
Martinez dh	5	0	2	1	0	2	.273
Muncy 3b	5	0	0	0	0	1	.198
Vargas 2b	3	1	0	0	1	1	.233
Outman cf	3	0	0	0	1	2	.241
Rojas ss	4	0	1	0	0	0	.208
Peralta lf	2	0	1	0	0	1	.214
Taylor ph-lf	2	0	1	1	0	1	.197
TOTALS	34	3	9	3	6	10	—

RAYS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Díaz 1b	4	2	3	2	1	0	.333
Franco ss	4	2	2	1	0	0	.292
B.Lowe 2b	4	0	1	2	0	2	.203
Arozarena lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.306
J.Lowe dh	3	0	1	1	0	0	.306
Ramírez ph-dh	1	0	0	0	0	0	.288
Walls 3b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.246
Bethancourt c	4	2	3	1	0	0	.261
Raley rf	2	1	0	0	1	0	.243
Margot ph-rf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.244
Siri cf	4	1	2	2	0	0	.261
TOTALS	34	9	13	9	2	3	—

L.A. .... 101 000 010 — 3 9 0
TAMPA BAY .. 221 100 12X — 9 13 0

LOB: Los Angeles 11, Tampa Bay 5. **2B:** Taylor (6), Díaz 2 (11), Bethancourt 2 (8). **HR:** Díaz (12), off Syndergaard; Siri (9), off Bruihl.

DODGERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Syndergaard	6	8	6	6	1	3	6.27
Bruihl	2	5	3	3	1	0	5.02

RAYS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Beeks	1⅔	3	1	1	1	2	4.73
Criswell	4	4	1	1	3	4	6.46
Diekman	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	8.31
Kelly	⅔	1	0	0	0	0	4.32
Poche	⅓	0	0	0	0	0	1.53
Faucher	⅔	1	1	1	2	1	6.32
Adam	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	3.54
Fairbanks	1	0	0	0	0	1	1.54

WP: Criswell (1-1); **LP:** Syndergaard (1-4). **Inherited runners-scored:** Criswell 1-0, Diekman 1-0, Poche 2-0, Adam 2-0. **HBP:** Kelly (Smith), Bruihl (Arozarena). **WP:** Criswell, Faucher. **PB:** Bethancourt (3). **T:** 2:45. **A:** 19,715 (25,025).

Guardians 4, Cardinals 3

Shane Bieber worked into the seventh inning, Amed Rosario hit a three-run double and Emmanuel Clase survived a stress-filled ninth as Cleveland edged St. Louis.

Bieber improved to 9-1 against NL Central teams.

Rosario's bases-clearing double in a four-run fifth came off Cardinals rookie Matthew Liberatore.

CARDINALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Nootbaar cf	4	1	3	1	1	1	.285
Goldschmidt 1b	4	0	2	0	1	1	.296
Gorman dh	4	0	0	0	1	1	.289
Arenado 3b	3	0	0	1	0	0	.260
Contreras c	3	0	0	0	1	0	.224
Donovan rf	4	1	2	0	0	0	.253
DeJong ss	4	0	0	0	0	1	.269
Burleson lf	2	0	0	1	1	0	.227
Edman 2b	3	1	1	0	1	0	.278
TOTALS	31	3	8	3	6	4	—

GUARDIANS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Kwan lf	4	1	1	1	0	1	.254
Rosario ss	3	0	1	3	1	2	.239
Ramírez 3b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.266
Bell dh	4	0	0	0	0	0	.220
Naylor 1b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.225
Arias rf	2	0	0	0	1	1	.200
Brennan rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.213
Giménez 2b	2	1	0	0	0	0	.234
Zunino c	3	1	2	0	0	0	.186
Straw cf	3	1	1	0	0	1	.227
TOTALS	29	4	7	4	2	5	—

ST. LOUIS .... 000 001 101 — 3 8 0
CLEVELAND .... 000 040 00X — 4 7 0

LOB: St. Louis 9, Cleveland 4. **2B:** Edman (10), Nootbaar (7), Rosario (6).

CARDINALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Liberatore	5	5	4	4	2	2	4.91
Stratton	2	0	0	0	0	3	3.86
Pallante	1	2	0	0	0	0	4.26

GUARDIANS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Bieber	6⅔	5	2	2	4	2	3.04
Stephan	⅔	1	0	0	2	0	2.11
De Los Santos	⅔	0	0	0	0	0	2.00
Clase	1	2	1	1	0	2	3.60

WP: Bieber (4-3); **LP:** Liberatore (1-1); **S:** Clase (17). **Inherited runners-scored:** Stephan 2-0, De Los Santos 2-0. **HBP:** Liberatore (Giménez). **WP:** Bieber. **T:** 2:30. **A:** 31,303 (34,788).

Padres 5, Yankees 1

Juan Soto and Fernando Tatis Jr. hit two-run homers as San Diego beat New York in a series opener between high-profile teams trying to overcome sluggish starts.

Soto put the Padres ahead in the fifth inning against Yankees right-hander Randy Vásquez, a 24-year-old making his big league debut.

PADRES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Tatis Jr. rf	5	1	1	2	0	1	.256
Cronenwrth 2b	3	1	1	0	1	1	.213
Soto lf	5	2	2	2	0	1	.266
Bogaerts ss	4	0	2	0	1	0	.259
Odor 3b	4	0	1	1	1	1	.222
Carpenter dh	5	0	0	0	0	3	.179
Dixon 1b	2	0	2	0	0	0	.269
Grisham cf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.189
Nola c	3	1	0	0	1	1	.135
TOTALS	35	5	9	5	4	10	—

YANKEES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Torres 2b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.263
Judge rf	4	0	1	0	0	3	.287
Rizzo 1b	4	0	2	1	0	0	.305
LeMahieu 3b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.250
Bader cf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.250
Calhoun dh	4	0	1	0	0	1	.230
Volpe ss	4	0	1	0	0	2	.200
Kiner-Falefa lf	3	0	0	0	0	2	.204
Rortvedt c	2	0	0	0	0	0	.286
Bauers ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.174
Higashioka c	0	0	0	0	0	0	.181
TOTALS	34	1	7	1	0	11	—

SAN DIEGO .... 000 022 001 — 5 9 0
NEW YORK .... 000 001 000 — 1 7 0

LOB: San Diego 10, New York 6. **2B:** Soto (14), Judge (9). **HR:** Soto (10), off Vásquez; Tatis Jr. (8), off Marinaccio.

PADRES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Musgrove	6⅓	6	1	1	0	6	5.64
Wilson	1⅔	1	0	0	0	2	2.96
Hader	1	0	0	0	0	3	0.82

YANKEES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Vásquez	4⅔	4	2	2	3	6	3.86
Marinaccio	1⅓	1	2	2	1	1	4.26
Weber	3	4	1	1	0	3	3.48

WP: Musgrove (2-2); **LP:** Vásquez (0-1). **Inherited runners-scored:** Wilson 2-0, Marinaccio 2-0. **HBP:** Vásquez 2 (Dixon,Cronenworth), Marinaccio (Dixon). **T:** 2:46. **A:** 46,724 (47,309).

Rangers 12, Orioles 2

RANGERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Semien 2b	5	1	1	0	0	1	.296
Seager ss	4	1	1	4	1	1	.343
Thompson lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.163
Lowe 1b	3	1	0	0	2	0	.286
García rf	5	0	0	0	0	2	.247
Jung 3b	5	2	3	1	0	1	.282
J.Smith lf-ss	5	2	3	1	0	1	.229
Grossman dh	2	2	1	2	1	0	.239
Miller ph-dh	1	0	1	1	0	0	.208
Taveras cf	4	2	2	3	1	0	.310
León c	5	1	1	0	0	1	.147
TOTALS	39	12	13	12	5	7	—

ORIOLES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Mullins cf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.269
Rutschman c	3	1	3	1	1	0	.274
McCann c	0	0	0	0	0	0	.182
Santander rf	3	0	0	0	0	2	.263
Vavra rf	1	0	1	1	0	0	.279
Mountcastle 1b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.239
Frazier 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.248
Urías 2b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.276
Hays lf	4	0	2	0	0	0	.311
Henderson 3b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.204
O'Hearn dh	4	1	1	0	0	3	.256
Mateo ss	3	0	0	0	0	3	.227
TOTALS	34	2	8	2	1	11	—

TEXAS .... 020 800 002 — 12 13 1
BALTIMORE ... 100 000 010 — 2 8 1

E: J.Smith (4), Mateo (6). **LOB:** Texas 6, Baltimore 6. **2B:** Miller (3), Hays (13), O'Hearn (2). **3B:** Jung (1). **HR:** Taveras (2), off Rodriguez; Grossman (6), off Rodriguez; Seager (4), off Rodriguez; Rutschman (8), off Gray. **RBI:** Taveras 3 (20), J.Smith (5), Grossman 2 (28), Seager 4 (18), Miller (6), Rutschman (26), Vavra (5).

RANGERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gray	7	4	1	1	1	8	2.81
King	1	4	1	1	0	2	4.15
Hernández	1	0	0	0	0	1	6.27

ORIOLES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Rodriguez	3⅓	6	9	8	3	6	7.35
Voth	3⅔	2	1	1	2	1	4.10
C.Pérez	1	1	0	0	0	0	3.26
McKenna	1	4	2	2	0	0	18.0

WP: Gray (5-1); **LP:** Rodriguez (2-2). **HBP:** Voth (Grossman). **T:** 2:36. **A:** 20,293 (45,971).

ORIOLES' LEADERS
Entering Friday's game.

Batters	Avg	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	BB
Hays	.307	163	25	50	5	19	11
Urías	.278	97	12	27	1	16	11
Mullins	.275	182	24	50	8	39	24
McKenna	.273	55	10	15	1	6	2
Santander	.267	176	23	47	8	28	22
Rutschman	.262	183	24	48	7	25	40
Vavra	.262	42	9	11	0	4	5

Rodriguez is shelled as Texas trounces O's

RANGERS 12, ORIOLES 2

BY HAYES GARDNER

BALTIMORE — Entering Friday night, 92 percent of the Baltimore Orioles' games this year had been decided by four runs or fewer. Night in and night out, they have played close games, and night in and night out, they have often won.

In their series opener at Camden Yards against the Texas Rangers, though, the Orioles played by far their most lopsided game of the year. Grayson Rodriguez allowed three home runs, including a fourth-inning grand slam to star shortstop Corey Seager, and eight earned runs as Baltimore fell, 12-2.

Before Friday, the largest margin in an Orioles game this season was a 6-0 loss to the Kansas City Royals this month.

With an announced crowd of 20,293 witnessing the Orioles debut their all-black — albeit with a colorful interior — City Connect uniforms, Adley Rutschman gave the Orioles a 1-0 lead with a first-inning home run.

But in the next frame, Rodriguez allowed a two-run homer to Leody Taveras, and in a nightmarish fourth inning, the Rangers piled it on. Josh Jung tripled on a ball misplayed by right fielder Anthony Santander, Josh Smith singled, and Robbie Grossman homered. Then the damage really began.

A walk, a hit and an error by shortstop Jorge Mateo — who could have ended the inning by turning a double play — loaded the bases for Seager, one of the highest-paid players in baseball. Rodriguez left his first pitch, a cutter, in the middle of the zone, and Seager tattooed it 437 feet to right-center field for the fate-sealing grand slam.

— Baltimore Sun

Phillies 6, Braves 4

Craig Kimbrel became the eighth pitcher in major league history to earn 400 saves and Brandon Marsh hit a go-ahead, two-run single in the sixth inning as Philadelphia beat Atlanta.

Kimbrel was a four-time all-star with the Braves and still holds the franchise record with 186 saves.

PHILLIES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Stott 2b	3	2	2	0	2	0	.294
Turner ss	4	2	1	1	1	0	.244
Harper dh	3	0	0	1	1	0	.333
Castellanos rf	5	1	2	2	0	0	.296
Schwarber lf	4	0	0	0	1	1	.169
Guthrie lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.133
Realmuto c	3	1	0	0	1	0	.272
Bohm 1b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.270
Marsh cf	4	0	1	2	0	2	.268
Harrison 3b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.172
TOTALS	33	6	7	6	7	5	—

BRAVES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Acuña Jr. rf	5	0	0	0	0	0	.323
Olson 1b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.232
Riley 3b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.264
d'Arnaud c	4	1	2	0	0	0	.317
Ozuna dh	4	1	3	1	0	0	.238
Rosario lf	2	0	1	1	0	0	.236
Pillar ph-lf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Albies 2b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.254
Arcia ss	4	1	2	0	0	0	.320
Harris II cf	3	1	2	2	1	1	.181
TOTALS	34	4	11	4	2	2	—

PHILA. .... 002 002 200 — 6 7 0
ATLANTA .... 000 120 010 — 4 11 0

LOB: Philadelphia 8, Atlanta 6. **2B:** Bohm (9), Turner (11), Rosario (8), d'Arnaud (4). **3B:** Castellanos (1). **HR:** Harris II (2), off Walker; Ozuna (11), off Strahm.

PHILLIES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Walker	6⅔	10	3	3	1	1	5.57
Strahm	1⅓	1	1	1	0	1	3.22
Kimbrel	1	0	0	0	1	0	5.68

BRAVES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Shuster	5⅔	3	3	3	3	5	5.33
Jiménez	⅓	1	1	1	2	0	4.86
Luetge	⅔	3	2	2	1	0	7.71
McHugh	1⅓	0	0	0	1	0	2.79
Chavez	1	0	0	0	0	0	2.01

WP: Walker (4-2); **LP:** Jiménez (0-1); **S:** Kimbrel (6). **Inherited runners-scored:** Strahm 2-0, Jiménez 1-1, McHugh 2-0. **WP:** Shuster, Luetge. **T:** 2:55. **A:** 40,533 (41,149).

Giants 15, Brewers 1

Mitch Haniger homered and drove in four runs in a rout by San Francisco.

Milwaukee's Willy Adames was struck by a foul ball in the dugout in the second inning and left the stadium for tests. It appeared to rattle the Brewers, who allowed seven runs in the top of the third.

GIANTS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Wade Jr. 1b	6	0	0	0	0	5	.265
Sabol dh	6	1	0	0	0	4	.252
Davis 3b	6	3	3	3	0	0	.278
Conforto rf	3	3	1	1	1	0	.241
Johnson cf	2	0	1	0	0	0	.194
Haniger lf	5	2	3	4	0	1	.215
Yastrzemski cf-rf	5	2	3	0	0	0	.264
Schmitt ss	5	1	2	1	0	1	.343
Bailey c	5	1	4	3	0	0	.364
Wisely 2b	5	2	2	3	0	2	.194
TOTALS	48	15	19	15	1	13	—

BREWERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Ruf dh-1b	3	1	1	0	1	0	.294
Contreras c	3	0	0	0	1	0	.243
Adames ss	0	0	0	0	1	0	.205
Turang ss	3	0	0	0	0	1	.223
Yelich lf	2	0	0	0	0	0	.257
Winker ph-lf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.212
Miller 2b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.324
Anderson 3b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.238
Brosseau 1b-p	4	0	1	0	0	1	.227
Taylor rf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.194
Wiemer cf	3	0	0	0	0	2	.193
TOTALS	30	1	4	0	5	7	—

SAN FRAN. .... 037 002 210 — 15 19 2
MILWAUKEE . 100 000 000 — 1 4 2

E: Davis (4), Wisely (3), Miller (1), Peralta (1). **LOB:** San Francisco 7, Milwaukee 7. **2B:** Yastrzemski (9), Davis 2 (8), Haniger (4), Wisely (3), Bailey (2). **HR:** Haniger (3), off Peralta; Wisely (2), off Peralta; Davis (9), off Small.

GIANTS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Wood	5⅔	3	1	1	5	5	3.51
Beck	3⅓	1	0	0	0	2	4.63

BREWERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Peralta	2⅓	8	10	5	1	4	4.80
Peguero	2⅔	2	0	0	0	4	3.24
Small	3	9	5	5	0	5	15.0
Brosseau	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00

WP: Wood (1-0); **LP:** Peralta (5-4); **S:** Beck (1). **Inherited runners-scored:** Beck 2-0. **WP:** Small. **T:** 2:42. **A:** 30,347 (41,700).

Blue Jays 3, Twins 1

Kevin Kiermaier and Bo Bichette homered in a three-run third, Kevin Gausman won for the first time in more than month, and Toronto beat Minnesota for just its second victory in nine games.

The Twins failed to take advantage of nine walks as they stranded 13 runners.

BLUE JAYS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Springer rf	4	1	2	0	0	1	.255
Bichette ss	4	1	2	2	0	1	.329
Guerrero Jr. dh	4	0	0	0	0	0	.292
Chapman 3b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.289
Belt 1b	3	0	0	0	1	1	.261
Merrifield 2b	4	0	2	0	0	1	.291
Varsho lf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.209
Kirk c	4	0	0	0	0	0	.240
Kiermaier cf	3	1	2	1	0	0	.319
TOTALS	34	3	8	3	1	6	—

TWINS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Solano 1b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.268
Jeffers c	1	0	0	0	0	0	.242
Correa ss	3	0	1	0	2	0	.215
Buxton dh	5	0	0	0	0	2	.231
Kirilloff lf	2	1	0	0	1	2	.273
Castro ph-lf	2	0	1	0	0	0	.247
Farmer 3b	4	0	0	0	1	2	.261
Julien 2b	2	0	0	0	2	2	.195
Garlick rf	2	0	1	1	1	0	.235
Wallner ph-rf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.077
Vázquez c	2	0	0	0	0	2	.227
Gallo ph-1b	0	0	0	0	2	0	.211
Taylor cf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.219
TOTALS	32	1	5	1	9	12	—

TORONTO ...... 003 000 000 — 3 8 0
MINNESOTA .. 000 001 000 — 1 5 1

E: Farmer (3). **LOB:** Toronto 5, Minnesota 13. **2B:** Springer 2 (4), Garlick (1). **3B:** Kiermaier (3). **HR:** Kiermaier (4), off Varland; Bichette (10), off Varland.

BLUE JAYS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gausman	5⅓	4	1	1	5	8	3.03
Swanson	1	0	0	0	2	2	3.38
Mayza	⅔	0	0	0	1	1	0.96
Pearson	1	0	0	0	1	1	1.93
Romano	1	1	0	0	0	0	3.15

TWINS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Varland	6	7	3	3	0	3	4.24
Pagán	2	0	0	0	0	3	4.57
De León	1	1	0	0	1	0	4.76

WP: Gausman (3-3); **LP:** Varland (2-1); **S:** Romano (11). **Inherited runners-scored:** Swanson 2-0, Mayza 1-0. **WP:** Pearson. **T:** 2:46. **A:** 25,061 (38,544).

Mets 5, Rockies 2

Francisco Lindor homered and drove in four runs, leading Max Scherzer and New York past Colorado.

Brandon Nimmo tripled twice, walked three times and scored three runs during a perfect night at the plate for the Mets.

METS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Nimmo cf	2	3	2	0	3	0	.303
Lindor ss	4	2	2	4	0	0	.232
McNeil 2b	5	0	0	0	0	0	.283
Alonso 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.234
Baty 3b	4	0	2	1	0	1	.250
Vientos ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.133
Escobar 3b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.220
Marte rf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.235
Vogelbach dh	4	0	0	0	0	1	.223
Pham lf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.200
Álvarez c	3	0	1	0	0	0	.263
TOTALS	35	5	7	5	3	4	—

ROCKIES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Blackmon dh	4	1	2	1	0	1	.286
Profar lf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.250
Bryant rf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.268
Díaz c	4	0	0	0	0	0	.331
McMahon 3b	3	1	1	1	1	0	.222
Castro cf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.267
Grichuk ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.338
Jones 1b	3	0	0	0	1	2	.000
Trejo 2b	4	0	3	0	0	0	.253
Tovar ss	3	0	0	0	0	2	.223
Moustakas ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.237
TOTALS	34	2	8	2	2	10	—

NEW YORK ..... 200 020 001 — 5 7 0
COLORADO .... 010 000 010 — 2 8 2

E: Jones (1), Trejo (4). **LOB:** New York 9, Colorado 7. **2B:** Trejo 2 (7). **3B:** Nimmo 2 (4). **HR:** Lindor (8), off Seabold; McMahon (5), off Scherzer; Blackmon (4), off Robertson.

METS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Scherzer	7	6	1	1	0	8	3.54
Robertson	1	1	1	1	0	1	1.61
Raley	⅓	0	0	0	2	0	3.24
Ottavino	⅔	1	0	0	0	1	4.58

ROCKIES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Seabold	4⅔	4	4	3	2	2	5.94
Carasiti	2⅓	2	0	0	1	2	12.4
Bird	1	0	0	0	0	0	2.41
Hand	1	1	1	1	0	0	3.38

WP: Scherzer (4-2); **LP:** Seabold (1-2); **S:** Ottavino (5). **Inherited runners-scored:** Ottavino 2-0, Carasiti 2-0. **HBP:** Seabold (Álvarez), Hand (Alonso). **T:** 2:46. **A:** 30,288 (50,144).

Mariners 3, Athletics 2

Late Thursday

Ty France homered twice in his return to the lineup, Logan Gilbert pitched eight outstanding innings, and Seattle finished a four-game sweep of Oakland.

Eugenio Suárez drew a bases-loaded walk from reliever Garrett Acton in the eighth to push across the go-ahead run.

The A's lost their eighth consecutive game.

ATHLETICS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Ruiz cf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.275
Noda 1b	4	1	2	0	0	2	.232
Rooker dh	4	0	0	0	0	2	.268
Brown rf	3	1	1	2	0	1	.214
Langeliers c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.204
Bleday lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.228
Peterson 3b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.203
Allen ss	3	0	0	0	0	0	.197
Kemp 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.161
TOTALS	30	2	3	2	0	8	—

MARINERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Crawford ss	4	0	0	0	0	1	.244
France 1b	4	3	2	2	0	0	.266
Rodríguez cf	4	0	2	0	0	0	.227
Kelenic lf	3	0	0	0	1	1	.284
Suárez 3b	2	0	0	1	1	1	.222
Raleigh dh	4	0	0	0	0	0	.228
Hernández rf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.237
Murphy c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.220
Caballero 2b	1	0	0	0	1	0	.279
TOTALS	28	3	5	3	3	4	—

OAKLAND ...... 200 000 000 — 2 3 1
SEATTLE .... 100 001 01X — 3 5 0

E: Allen (2). **LOB:** Oakland 1, Seattle 6. **2B:** Noda (10), Rodríguez (11). **HR:** Brown (2), off Gilbert; France (4), off Sears; France (5), off May.

ATHLETICS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Sears	5	3	1	1	0	1	4.70
May	2	1	1	1	0	2	9.00
Lovelady	⅔	0	1	1	1	1	2.51
Acton	⅓	1	0	0	2	0	1.93

MARINERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gilbert	8	3	2	2	0	6	3.60
Sewald	1	0	0	0	0	2	3.18

WP: Gilbert (3-2); **LP:** Lovelady (0-3); **S:** Sewald (11). **Inherited runners-scored:** Acton 1-1. **IBB:** off Acton (Kelenic). **HBP:** Sears 2 (Suárez,Caballero). **T:** 2:00. **A:** 19,268 (47,929).

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NL leaders

Entering Friday's games.

BATTING

Arraez, Mia	.371
Díaz, Col	.340
Acuña Jr., Atl	.332
Freeman, LA	.325
Gurriel Jr., Ari	.317
Estrada, SF	.301

HOME RUNS

Alonso, NY	19
Muncy, LA	15
Soler, Mia	15
Olson, Atl	14

ERA

Elder, Atl	2.01
Cobb, SF	2.17
Steele, Chi	2.20
Keller, Pit	2.44
Gray, Was	2.65

SAVES

Doval, SF	13
Hader, SD	13
Díaz, Cin	10
Finnegan, Was	10
Johnson, Col	10

AL leaders

Entering Friday's games.

BATTING

Bichette, Tor	.326
Díaz, TB	.322
Arozarena, TB	.311
Hays, Bal	.307
Rizzo, NY	.301

HOME RUNS

Judge, NY	14
García, Tex	14
Robert Jr., Chi	13
Devers, Bos	13

ERA

Gray, Min	1.82
McClanahan, TB	1.97
Rodriguez, Det	2.19
Ryan, Min	2.21

SAVES

Clase, Cle	16
Bautista, Bal	12
Estévez, LA	12
Jansen, Bos	10
Romano, Tor	10
Sewald, Sea	10

CANDACE BUCKNER

The Celtics are looking like themselves again. All they needed was a little chaos.

BUCKNER FROM **D1**

But remind me: How many series have these Celtics won in four, even five games? Unlike the dominant Denver Nuggets, who are resting after sweeping the Los Angeles Lakers and waiting for their NBA Finals foe to emerge from the East, Boston has found no such inspiration in efficiency.

Instead, these Celtics get their kicks through chaos. Their confidence blooms only after hope vanishes. If there's a wall, they will willingly pin their backs against it and, only then, devise an exit strategy. When given no choice but to unleash the full breadth of its arsenal for the sake of survival, *then* Boston will play the kind of game that it did Thursday night — and resemble the championship contender it should have been all along.

Facing their second straight elimination game, the Celtics never trailed while blowing away Miami, 110-97. The series, now a more manageable 3-2 deficit for Boston, no longer feels like staring up at the impossible. But maybe a mountain was all the Celtics needed to see. When the worst happens, they're freed to be themselves.

"For some odd reason, even last year, we always seemed to make it a little bit tougher on ourselves," all-star wing Jayson Tatum said. "But what I do know is that you can see the true character of a person, of a team when things aren't going well. And our ability to come together, figure things out when it's not necessarily looking good for us, it's unlike any team I've been on this year and last year, just the core group of guys being able to respond."

MICHAEL DWYER/ASSOCIATED PRESS

"We always [seem] to make it a little bit tougher on ourselves," Celtics all-star wing Jayson Tatum said.

This habit has a history. During the 2020 bubble, Boston faced the defending champion Toronto Raptors in the second round. In the deciding Game 7, the Celtics locked down Toronto defensively and wrestled away a 92-87 win. A year ago, Boston met another defending champ in the semifinals. That time, they trailed the Milwaukee Bucks 3-2. In Game 6 — on the road, no less — Tatum scored 46 points as the Celtics won and moved back home for the series finale. They won that game, too.

And for more recent evidence, look no further than the 3-2 lead the Philadelphia 76ers built in the previous round. Boston survived Game 6, and Tatum once again tapped into his clutch gene, scoring 51 in the deciding game.

Now, the Celtics are trying to become the first team in NBA history to win a best-of-seven series after dropping the first three games.

Before Game 5, Coach Joe Mazzulla was asked about the team's mind-set.

"Win or die," he said, monotone yet tone deaf.

Possibly Mazzulla, who approaches sessions with reporters like daily dental exams, was being intentionally sardonic. Moments later he shared a story about speaking with three young women with terminal cancer. An experience like that offers perspective on "what life is really all about," Mazzulla said.

Though their coach sat stone-faced on the pregame dais, talking about life and death, Boston's players seemed to take a lighter approach. A potential closeout game on their home floor? Just another obstacle for a group experienced in the art of building anxiety.

"We like stressing you all out," Celtics forward Grant Williams said, smiling.

The Celtics come across as the kind of guys who arrive at the airport 10 minutes before their flight departs. They probably start their holiday shopping at 11:59 p.m. on Dec. 24. They are likely to think of deadlines as mere suggestions, all the while whistling as the calamity countdown keeps ticking.

"We don't stress ourselves out. We trust one another. We challenge one another, so in those moments we challenge one another to be better. But when there's stress, we still smile," Williams said. "We still come in with the same joyous mentality we've had the entire season. We trust one another. Although it may make people panic, we thrive in chaos, a little bit."

Showing no signs of stress through Game 5, Boston set the tone on the first play when Marcus Smart, the 2021-22 defensive player of the year, sprawled on the floor to get the steal and possession. Smart's effort led to a layup for Tatum.

"Smart was just a beast tonight," all-star forward Jaylen Brown said. "Marcus on both sides of the ball was incredible tonight. It was a great performance from him."

From that aggressive play, the tension went away. Much like Miami's chances to close out the series in five games.

Boston's defense, which forced six turnovers in the opening frame, fueled the scoring, and the Celtics nailed seven triples while shooting 54.2 percent. Their lead expanded all the way to 24 points, and, picking a good time to post a season first, four Celtics players scored at least 20 points. (Derrick White scored 24, Smart had 23, and both Tatum and Brown finished with 21.)

Following the embarrassment of Game 3, when not a single player scored more than 14 points, a sweep in Miami seemed realistic. But then, as they tend do, the Celtics felt the panic and finally got comfortable.

"Part of it was just — being down 3-0, you understand how that's never been done, all the talk about that. It kind of gave us a sense of just like, you know, everybody is counting us out," Tatum said. "We started to play a little bit more free, relaxed. Obviously, our defensive intensity, being connected on the defensive end, that showed these last two games, and then offensively I think guys are just relaxed and really just taking it one game at a time, knowing we have this uphill battle to overcome. But I really feel like guys have just taken a deep breath.

"In that locker room after Game 3 was the lowest you can be," Tatum continued, "and I think everybody just kind of relaxed, honestly."

The Heat still needs just one more game to wrap up the series. By Saturday night, maybe Miami starting point guard Gabe Vincent will return to the lineup after missing Game 5 with an ankle injury. Although the Heat replaced Vincent with a veteran, 37-year-old Kyle Lowry was shaky with the ball as an initiator and a liability as a scoring threat.

Though the Heat will be at home, the pressure has shifted dramatically. Momentum is back on the Celtics' side. Can they handle it?

Delle Donne plays up to her top billing as Mystics hold on for close win over Sky

MYSTICS FROM **D1**

seconds left in a 66-66 game. Ariel Atkins broke free for a corner three-pointer that was off the mark. But Atkins chased down her own rebound and found Delle Donne, whose three-pointer made it 69-66. The Sky would never lead again.

"You just can't rattle her," Mystics Coach Eric Thibault said about Delle Donne. "They were making it hard for her to catch it, so she's versatile enough that she can move around in different spaces and give them different looks. We were on the losing end of a couple of those shots before we got her."

Delle Donne scored eight points during an 11-1 stretch early in the third quarter to give the Mystics a 16-point lead. It looked like the Mystics were cruising, but things quickly fell apart. Defensive lapses, turnovers and hot shooting from Marina Mabrey produced a 16-0 Chicago run that knotted the game at 53.

The Mystics answered with three-pointers from Kristi Toliver and Amanda Zahui B., but the Sky opened the fourth quarter with a 7-0 run to set up the dramatic finish.

In addition to Delle Donne's clutch performance, center Shakira Austin delivered a strong game, finishing with 15 points and 11 rebounds.

Delle Donne's key three capped an encouraging shooting night for the Mystics (2-2). They came in 9 for 57 from beyond the arc from all players not named Delle Donne or Brittney Sykes but shot 41.2 percent from three-point range Friday.

"You know, I'm seasoned," Delle Donne, 33, said. "You get older, start studying the game a little more. I watch a lot more film nowadays because my on-court time isn't as much as when I was younger and playing a ton. As you play this game, you start to see it slower and find ways to affect the game."

The Mystics took a 40-34 lead into intermission on the strength of an 11-0 run early in the second quarter. The second unit struggled the previous two games, but every reserve who checked in scored against the Sky (2-1). Li Meng capped the run with her first basket as a WNBA player, a three-pointer from the top of the key.

"We held our poise better down the stretch tonight," Thibault said. "I thought our defense stayed steady even when our offense went a little sideways."

Here's what else to know about the Mystics' win:

Commissioner's Cup

Each of the first four games were Commissioner's Cup games for the Mystics. The Cup is an in-season competition, with players competing for a prize pool and an additional pool of money for charitable organizations. The Connecticut Sun (3-0) leads the East in the Cup standings.

League confirms fine

Delle Donne was fined an undisclosed amount for inappropriate public comments regarding officiating, the league confirmed Wednesday evening. The Mystics star was frustrated after a physical 80-74 loss to the Sun on Sunday.

"I'm just going to say it," Delle Donne said Sunday. "I'm so sick of being treated like a rookie with calls. If I get fined — whatever. I've been through too many back surgeries to — whatever. I just keep attacking, hoping that it'll change. Hopefully it'll change next game, but there's really nothing you can do in those moments."

Hines-Allen update

Myisha Hines-Allen missed her fourth consecutive game as she continues to recover from offseason knee surgery. She said Friday that she is feeling good, playing a lot of pickup ball and getting back in the groove of things but is still taking it day-to-day. The Mystics have not put a timeline on her return.

"I want to play," Hines-Allen said with a smile. "Every game, I'm like, all right y'all. Y'all could put me in for a little bit. I don't even bring my jersey no more. I'm really optimistic. I think hopefully coming soon that I'll be able to play again."

Up next

The Mystics have a week off before hosting the Dallas Wings on Friday. Washington has played the most games in the league through the opening week of the season.

Nats take seven-run lead, then stifle Royals' rally

NATIONALS FROM **D1**

three-run homer off Ramírez — grounded into a force out that also scored a run. Then Kuhl struck out MJ Melendez to escape the inning, convening with catcher Keibert Ruiz to pat him on the chest.

No one warmed in the bullpen while the Nationals (22-29) batted in the top of the ninth. The last three outs, like the two tenuous outs before them, belonged to Kuhl. And he proved up to recording them.

To set up the late-inning madness, Lane Thomas had greeted Jordan Lyles, one of the worst starters in the majors, with his sixth career leadoff homer and his eighth homer of May. In the second spot of Washington's order, Luis García logged a career-high six hits, including a pair of doubles in that eight-run sixth inning. Corey Dickerson rocked a three-run homer off Lyles in the sixth, ripping the game open before it tightened with Ramírez on the mound. Joey Meneses collected three hits, two of them doubles that led to runs in the sixth and eighth.

The Nationals' bats kept coming and coming. As it turned out, in the end, their staff needed every bit of the support.

The superlatives — biggest inning of the season, García becoming the first player in team history to double twice in the same inning — wouldn't mean much in a loss. But Kuhl, a 30-year-old righty, settled in after Perez beat him with that single to right field. He retired the next five batters he faced, closing the back-and-forth contest with a strikeout of Maikel Garcia. He threw four straight sliders to Garcia, clenching his fist after the third baseman swung through the last one.

Then Kuhl walked toward home plate for another hug with Ruiz. For the moment, in a moment he was not expecting, he certainly looked the part.

NATIONALS ON DECK

at Kansas City Royals		
Today	4:10	MASN
Tomorrow	2:10	MASN
at Los Angeles Dodgers		
Monday	9:10	MASN
Tuesday	10:10	MASN2
Wednesday	4:10	MASN2
vs. Philadelphia Phillies		
Friday	7:05	MASN
June 3	4:05	MASN
June 4	1:35	MASN

Radio: WJFK (106.7 FM)

ED ZURGA/GETTY IMAGES

Corey Dickerson rocked a three-run homer off the Royals' Jordan Lyles in the sixth inning, ripping the game open before it tightened late.

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MARYLAND 4A BASEBALL FINAL

Senior Scott helps the Warriors clinch an unprecedented third straight title

SHERWOOD 7, URBANA 4

BY SPENCER NUSBAUM

The moment never got too big for Sherwood's Brian Scott.

The Warriors senior sent the second pitch of Friday night's Maryland 4A state championship over the left field wall.

He took the third pitch of his second at-bat against Urbana into right for an RBI single to reclaim a lead his team had conceded. He came in to pitch in the fifth and gave his coach a confident nod before the seventh.

And when the 7-4 win was secure, clinching a third straight title for Sherwood, Scott wrangled his way out of the bottom of the dog pile to embrace every last coach and teammate he could find at Regency Furniture Stadium in Waldorf.

"To win three straight with my best friends," Scott said, before pausing, "there's not much more in the world that you could want more than that."

All season, rival coaches touted Sherwood (23-3) as the closest thing to an inevitability that high school baseball allowed.

But Coach Sean Davis knew the Warriors also were subject to the whims of baseball, a sport known for spoiling the best teams' best-laid plans.

And no team had ever won three straight Maryland 4A state titles.

"We have wonderfully talented players, wonderful coaches, and there's just so much buy-in," Davis said. "Those are the things that help you win championships. You can get a bad bounce here or there, but you can always dig yourself out of a hole."

In Urbana (21-3), the Warriors faced a foe that hadn't lost since March. But the Hawks were also a familiar opponent, one that the Warriors had blown out in the season opener and eliminated in the 2019, 2021 and 2022 postseasons.

Though each of their titles has looked different — this year's included capitalizing on six Urbana errors — the game featured familiar heroes and rising stars.

Scott provided a 1-0 lead in the first with his homer and singled for a 2-1 lead that became 3-1 before the end of the second.

Amari Allen, the reigning All-Met Player of the Year, legged out two infield singles on bobbled balls.

Sophomore Jacob Bagania, who batted ninth, scored three runs, including swiping third and home on an errant pickoff attempt in the fifth to provide a 5-1 lead.

Junior right-hander Mac Crismond, who dazzled with a one-hitter in the team's 1-0 state quarterfinal win and blanked Severna Park in the state final last season, shimmered yet again.

"School's over, that was my last game of high school baseball, and I don't even think [the three-peat] has set in yet," senior infielder Ryan Bouma said. "But I know this is the most talented team we've had, and we didn't disappoint."

CRAIG HUDSON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

After losing to Calvert in last year's title game, Rising Sun took the trophy this year in extra innings.

MARYLAND 2A SOFTBALL FINAL

Cavaliers fall short in bid for a repeat

RISING SUN 1, CALVERT 0 (8)

BY NOAH FERGUSON

Calvert was in familiar territory Friday afternoon after the seventh inning at Maryland Softball Stadium in College Park. For the third straight year, the Cavaliers were headed to extra frames with a 2A state softball title on the line. And for the second consecutive year, their opponent was Rising Sun.

But Calvert's bid for a repeat fell short in a 1-0 loss, the decisive run scoring in the bottom of the eighth inning on a sacrifice fly.

The win marked a measure of revenge for Rising Sun (20-1), which lost last year's final to the Cavaliers, 5-4. Calvert finished 22-2.

"We just kind of kept going into it, it didn't feel like it was anything different," Calvert Coach Lauren Robison said. "We knew we would have some extra chances to get some runs."

Calvert managed just three hits on the afternoon, and its best chance came in the seventh, when the Cavaliers stranded two runners.

"It's almost like we weren't going through. We did a great job of making contact, [but] we definitely didn't put them in play," Robison said. "It's almost like we needed one more inning to adjust."

The Cavaliers' loss spoiled a strong pitching performance from Emma DeBoer, one of eight seniors on Calvert's veteran-laden roster. DeBoer struck out nine and kept the Tigers off the board until the extra-inning ghost runner scored the winning run.

Rising Sun's best chance in regulation came when DeBoer loaded the bases in the fourth inning, but a two-out strikeout kept the game scoreless.

"Emma's just an absolute workhorse. To take on the load that she did for all of the years that she did and to take it in stride, I'm beyond proud of her," Robison said. "I can't wait to hear all about her success. It's not the last time you're going to hear her name."

After Rising Sun celebrated its win, Calvert lined up side-by-side for the final time for the awarding of the second-place trophy. Robison walked down the line and embraced each player, emotional interactions at the conclusion of another dominant season that fell just short of another state championship.

"A really great year because they do all the work, they're such great kids," Robison said. "To have eight seniors that gave me everything they had for so long, I can't ask anything better than that."

MARYLAND 3A SOFTBALL FINAL

It's mission accomplished for Hornets

DAMASCUS 2, RESERVOIR 0

BY NOAH FERGUSON

Isabella DiGiandomenico watched as a towering flyball disappeared over the left field wall at Maryland Softball Stadium on Friday night. The Damascus senior pitcher provided the hit, then burst into a wide smile as she rounded the bases and stepped onto a home plate bustling with celebrating teammates.

"So, personally I thought it was foul," DiGiandomenico said with a laugh. "But after I saw the umpire waving his finger, I was overcome with joy."

DiGiandomenico's sixth-inning blast was the highlight of the Hornets' 2-0 win over Reservoir in the Maryland 3A state championship. The senior also threw a complete-game shutout, handing the Gators (23-1) their only loss of the season.

"I'm so proud of her because we've just played together since rec ball," senior Morgan Lipansky said. "To see all of us playing here and winning a state championship is insane."

Friday evening's title game quickly proved to be a battle of two of the state's best pitchers. DiGiandomenico took the pitching circle for the Hornets (22-1) fresh off a dominant semifinal victory over Stephen Decatur on Tuesday, while Maggie Frisvold boasted a spotless record leading into the championship game.

Frisvold struck out the first three batters she faced en route to 11 total strikeouts, while DiGiandomenico held the Gators' typically potent offense to just one hit through six innings. The pitchers will be teammates at Maryland Baltimore County next season.

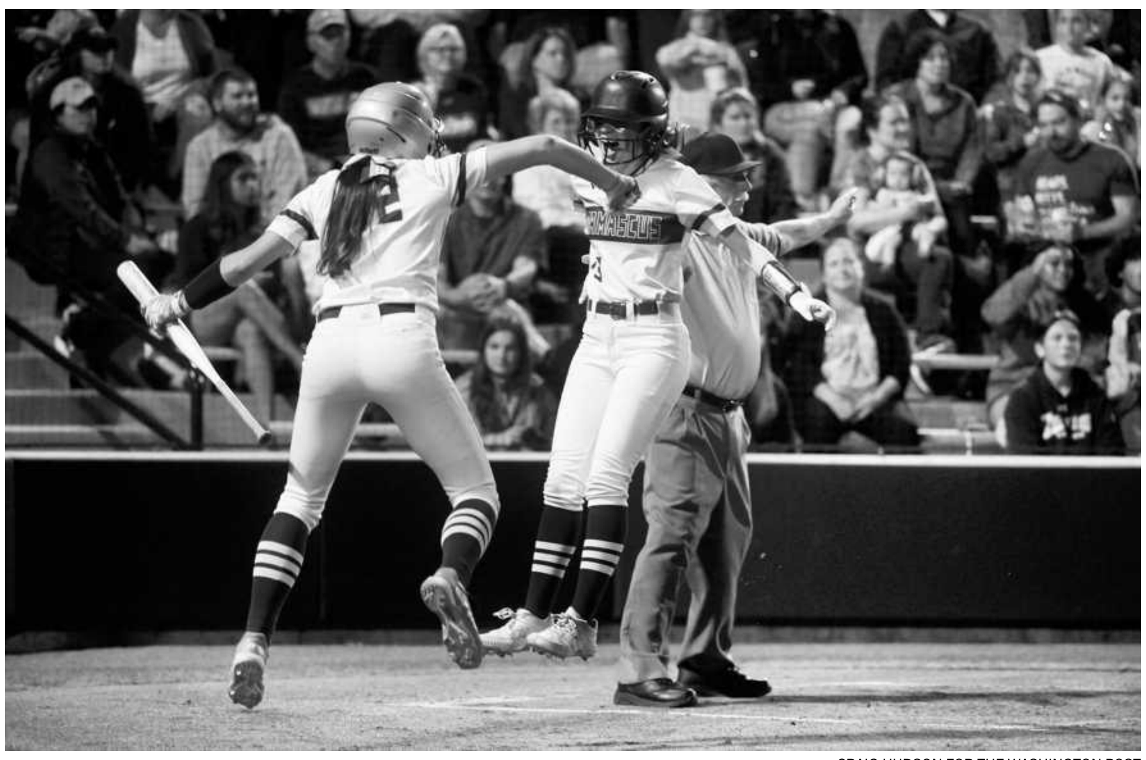
The Hornets struck first in the third inning when a Riley Wheeler single preceded a Falyn Quick double that broke the scoreless tie. Back-to-back Damascus errors in the bottom of the fourth inning gave the Gators the chance to get themselves on the board, but first baseman Allie Doyle snagged a Reservoir line drive out of the air with two runners on base to quell a Gators surge.

Ultimately, DiGiandomenico got the last laugh in the sixth inning. The senior's home run to left field doubled the Hornets' advantage, and her dominance in the pitching circle combined with the Damascus team defense took care of the rest as the Gators failed to respond at the plate in the closing moments of the game.

"I'm speechless," Damascus Coach Lindsay Burns said. "They set a goal at the beginning of the year, and our quote for the season was 'never satisfied,' and they weren't truly satisfied until we got that trophy tonight."

DiGiandomenico leaped into the air as the final groundout slapped into Doyle's glove in the seventh inning before she was swarmed by her teammates inside the pitching circle, the final out that crowned the Hornets state champions after falling short in the state semifinals the previous two seasons.

"The words I was thinking were, 'We did it,' " DiGiandomenico said.



CRAIG HUDSON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Isabella DiGiandomenico, left, homered, hurled a shutout and cheered as Riley Wheeler scored a run.

Osbourn boys' soccer moves to 20-0, keeps finding ways to remain perfect

BY MICHAEL ERRIGO

Late in Thursday night's region quarterfinal game against Woodbridge, things were not going to plan for the undefeated Osbourn Eagles. They were down a star player and fighting for their postseason lives, navigating a tense, tied match as the clock ticked down.

In high school sports, perfection can breed a multitude of emotions. When backed against a wall, there's no telling whether a great team will grow more confident in its track record or anxious about the possibility of spoiling it.

Time and again this season, Osbourn Coach Brandon Calandra has seen his team respond to adversity with confidence. In a tight game, the Eagles always seem to remember why and how they have won so many matches this year. They turn it on. They get it done.

"These guys kill me every time with it," Calandra said with a laugh. "It's like they need something to awaken them and they flip the switch. . . . But ultimately it's about them keeping their composure, and that's what they did tonight."

On Thursday night in Manassas, the Eagles scored with 10 minutes remaining to pull out a gutsy win under perilous circumstances, topping Woodbridge, 2-1, in the Virginia 6 Region B quarterfinals. With the win, the Eagles are now 20-0 and one victory from punching their ticket to the Virginia state tournament.

If they do earn that spot, it will be a return trip. Last spring, Osbourn announced itself with an undefeated regular season (but with four draws) and an impressive playoff run. After capturing the program's first region title since 1988, Osbourn fell to Landstown on penalty kicks in the state quarterfinals.

Part of the objective entering this season was to keep the momentum of that breakout campaign alive, albeit with a different roster. The team returned a fair amount of talent from last year's group, but Calandra knows every team is different. He said he rarely discusses the successes of last season with his players.

On Thursday night, they began play in a new bracket by showing some heart. After Cooper Noseworthy was injured in the first half, the Eagles had to fend off a feisty Woodbridge team that equalized in the 63rd minute.

"At halftime we talked about just playing with your heart," senior forward Noel Sotelo said. "We knew Cooper wasn't coming back, and we wanted to show we could adjust."

It was Sotelo, one of the top forwards in Prince William County this spring, who had tallied the opening goal in the 20th minute.

In Noseworthy's absence, Sotelo took on a larger leadership role and helped orchestrate the game-winner. Dropping back to take possession closer to midfield, he found junior Joseph Adebiyi down the right side. Adebiyi eventually crossed it to the middle, where junior Ahmed Chirinos was waiting.

"We had created a lot of chances to that point, so I felt some pressure to finish the one I had," Chirinos said.

Noseworthy, a dynamic two-way midfielder, has been at the center of this Osbourn soccer renaissance and stands as one of the most important players in Northern Virginia. He started the postseason on an absolute tear, scoring seven goals across Osbourn's two district tournament victories.

But on Thursday, he went down late in the first half when he rolled an ankle. At halftime, as his teammates discussed how they could best maintain their slim lead, Noseworthy lay helpless on the trainer's table with his right ankle wrapped in ice. At the end of the game, he rode through the handshake line on a golf cart. Calandra said it was unclear whether the senior would be able to play next week.

"We've always known it has to be a next-man-up mentality, and I think these guys are ready for whatever," Calandra said.

Osbourn will face Forest Park, which topped Colonial Forge on Thursday, in Wednesday's region semifinal.

"I told the guys before [Thursday's] game that it doesn't have to be pretty," Calandra said. "Postseason play often is not pretty. It just comes down to who wants to fight for it. And so far, we have."

NFL NOTES

Unable to work out a trade, Cardinals cut Hopkins, take $22.6 million cap hit

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The DeAndre Hopkins era is over for the Arizona Cardinals, who are on the hook for quite an expensive breakup.

The Cardinals released the three-time all-pro wide receiver in a salary cap move Friday after they failed to find a trade partner in the offseason.

Arizona made the move three years after acquiring Hopkins in a blockbuster trade with Houston and eventually signing him to a $54.5 million contract extension through 2024. Hopkins, who turns 31 in June, would have counted close to $31 million against the cap this season.

His cap hit in dead money is $22.6 million. The good news for the Cardinals is he will be off the books for 2024, when the team figures to be more competitive.

Hopkins — still one of the NFL's elite receivers when healthy — is free to sign with any team. His 11,298 career yards receiving already rank 36th in league history.

Arizona is rebuilding under new head coach Jonathan Gannon and general manager Monti Ossenfort, and keeping Hopkins's expensive contract didn't make much sense, particularly because franchise quarterback Kyler Murray is likely to miss part of the upcoming season while recovering from a knee injury.

The Cardinals tried for months to trade Hopkins, but his expensive contract made that difficult.

Hopkins had 221 catches for 2,696 yards and 17 touchdowns in 35 games with Arizona. His most famous catch was a last-second heave from Murray in the end zone against the Buffalo Bills in 2020 that became known as the "Hail Murray."

That 2020 season was his best in the desert. He caught a franchise-record 115 passes for 1,407 yards and six touchdowns.

For a few months, the Murray-Hopkins combo looked like it would grow into one of the most prolific in the NFL. The Cardinals started the 2021 season with a 10-2 record thanks to their high-powered offense, but Hopkins and Murray both battled injuries in the latter half of the year and the team faded, barely making the playoffs before getting blown out by the Los Angeles Rams in the first round.

Hopkins never got on track in 2022, starting the year with a six-game suspension after testing positive for performance-enhancing drugs. The Cardinals finished with a 4-13 record, leading to the firing of coach Kliff Kingsbury. The team also parted ways with general manager Steve Keim.

• **SAINTS:** Former Raiders coach Jon Gruden was among a handful of guests who observed New Orleans's voluntary offseason practices this week.

A person familiar with the situation confirmed Gruden's presence during the Saints' first week of voluntary practices with new quarterback Derek Carr, who posted some of his best career passing numbers in Gruden-designed offenses. The person spoke to the Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because the club did not publicly disclose the names of non-Saints coaches who attended practices.

Gruden last coached in 2021, resigning five games into that season following the leaks of emails in which he criticized people — including NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell — with homophobic and misogynistic terms.

SCOREBOARD

PRO BASKETBALL

NBA playoffs

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

Best of seven.

EASTERN CONFERENCE
HEAT ELIMINATED KNICKS, 4-2

Game 1: Miami 108, at New York 101
Game 2: at New York 111, Miami 105
Game 3: at Miami 105, New York 86
Game 4: at Miami 109, New York 101
Game 5: at New York 112, Miami 103
Game 6: at Miami 96, New York 92

CELTICS ELIMINATED 76ERS, 4-3

Game 1: Philadelphia 119, at Boston 115
Game 2: at Boston 121, Philadelphia 87
Game 3: Boston 114, at Philadelphia 102
Game 4: at Philadelphia 116, Boston 115 (OT)
Game 5: Philadelphia 115, at Boston 103
Game 6: Boston 95, at Philadelphia 86
Game 7: at Boston 112, Philadelphia 88

WESTERN CONFERENCE
NUGGETS ELIMINATED SUNS, 4-2

Game 1: at Denver 125, Phoenix 107
Game 2: at Denver 97, Phoenix 87
Game 3: at Phoenix 121, Denver 114
Game 4: at Phoenix 129, Denver 124
Game 5: at Denver 118, Phoenix 102
Game 6: Denver 125, at Phoenix 100

LAKERS ELIMINATED WARRIORS, 4-2

Game 1: L.A. Lakers 117, at Golden State 112
Game 2: at Golden State 127, L.A. Lakers 100
Game 3: at L.A. Lakers 127, Golden State 97
Game 4: at L.A. Lakers 104, Golden State 101
Game 5: at Golden State 121, L.A. Lakers 106
Game 6: at L.A. Lakers 122, Golden State 101

CONFERENCE FINALS

Best of seven; x-If necessary.

EASTERN CONFERENCE
HEAT LEADS CELTICS, 3-2

Game 1: Miami 123, at Boston 116
Game 2: Miami 111, at Boston 105
Game 3: at Miami 128, Boston 102
Game 4: Boston 116, at Miami 99
Game 5: at Boston 110, Miami 97
Saturday's game: Boston at Miami, 8:30, TNT
x-Monday's game: Miami at Boston, 8:30, TNT

WESTERN CONFERENCE
NUGGETS ELIMINATED LAKERS, 4-0

Game 1: at Denver 132, L.A. Lakers 126
Game 2: at Denver 108, L.A. Lakers 103
Game 3: Denver 119, at L.A. Lakers 108
Game 4: Denver 113, at L.A. Lakers 111

NBA FINALS

Best of seven; x-If necessary.

HEAT-CELTICS WINNER VS. NUGGETS

Thursday's game: Miami-Boston winner at Denver, 8:30, ABC
Sunday, June 4: Miami-Boston winner at Denver, 8, ABC
Wednesday, June 7: Denver at Miami-Boston winner, 8:30, ABC
Friday, June 9: Denver at Miami-Boston winner, 8:30, ABC
x-Monday, June 12: Miami-Boston winner at Denver, 8:30, ABC
x-Thursday, June 15: Denver at Miami-Boston winner, 8:30, ABC
x-Sunday, June 18: Miami-Boston winner at Denver, 8, ABC

COLLEGE LACROSSE

NCAA men's tournament

PLAY-IN GAME
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

at Delaware 25, Marist 10

FIRST ROUND
SATURDAY, MAY 13

at Virginia 17, Richmond 8
at Notre Dame 20, Utah 7
at Georgetown 19, Yale 17
Army 16, at Maryland 15

SUNDAY, MAY 14

at Johns Hopkins 22, Bryant 8
Michigan 15, at Cornell 14 (OT)
at Duke 12, Delaware 11
at Penn State 13, Princeton 12

QUARTERFINALS
SATURDAY, MAY 20
IN ALBANY, N.Y.

Virginia 17, Georgetown 14
Duke 15, Michigan 8

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
IN ANNAPOLIS

Penn State 10, Army 9
Notre Dame 12, Johns Hopkins 9

SEMIFINALS
AT LINCOLN FINANCIAL FIELD; IN PHILADELPHIA
SATURDAY'S GAMES

Duke vs. Penn State, noon, ESPNU
Virginia vs. Notre Dame, 2:30, ESPNU

CHAMPIONSHIP
AT LINCOLN FINANCIAL FIELD; IN PHILADELPHIA
MONDAY, MAY 29

TBD, 1, ESPNU

NCAA women's tournament

FIRST ROUND
FRIDAY, MAY 12

Pennsylvania 13, Connecticut 8
Johns Hopkins 19, Massachusetts 8
at James Madison 12, Army 8
at North Carolina 16, Sacred Heart 5
at Loyola (Md.) 11, Fairfield 6
Michigan 13, Central Michigan 6
at Florida 13, Jacksonville 7
Maryland 11, Drexel 6
Richmond 18, Marquette 8
at Denver 10, Southern California 7
Stony Brook 12, Penn State 8
Notre Dame 21, Mercer 6
Albany 16, Virginia 14

SECOND ROUND
SUNDAY, MAY 14

at North Carolina 16, Richmond 12
Notre Dame 16, at Florida 15
at Northwestern 8, Michigan 7
at James Madison 15, Maryland 14
at Boston College 9, Pennsylvania 7
at Loyola (Md.) 9, Stony Brook 8
at Syracuse 25, Johns Hopkins 8
at Denver 8, Albany 6

QUARTERFINALS
THURSDAY, MAY 18

Syracuse 13, James Madison 7
Boston College 20, Notre Dame 6
Denver 5, North Carolina 4
Northwestern 16, Loyola (Md.) 6

SEMIFINALS
AT WAKEMED SOCCER PARK; IN CARY, N.C.
FRIDAY'S RESULTS

Northwestern 15, Denver 7
Boston College 8, Syracuse 7

CHAMPIONSHIP
AT WAKEMED SOCCER PARK; IN CARY, N.C.
SUNDAY'S GAME

Northwestern vs. Boston College, noon, ESPN

TRANSACTIONS

MLB

MLB: Suspended manager Aaron Boone one-game and fined him an undisclosed amount for his conduct toward Major League Umpires and his ejection from the game on May 25 against Baltimore.
Baltimore Orioles: Reinstated INF Ramon Urias from the 10-day IL. Optioned INF Joey Ortiz to Norfolk (IL).
Boston Red Sox: Assigned 3B Christian Arroyo to Worcester (IL) on a rehab assignment. Assigned SS Yu Chang to Portland (EL) on a rehab assignment.
Chicago White Sox: Sent CF Jake Marisnick outright to Charlotte (IL).
Detroit Tigers: Assigned LF Kerry Carpenter to Toledo (IL) on a rehab assignment.
Kansas City Royals: Reinstated OF Drew Waters from the 10-day IL.
Los Angeles Angels: Designated RHP Reyes Moronta for assignment. Selected the contract of RHP Sam Bachman from Rocket City (SL).
New York Yankees: Optioned LHP Nick Ramirez to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL). Recalled RHP Randy Vasquez from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre. Released OF Aaron Hicks.
Toronto Blue Jays: Placed C Danny Jansen on the 10-day IL, retroactive to May 25. Recalled C Tyler Heineman from Buffalo (IL).
Arizona Diamondbacks: Recalled OF Jake McCarthy from Reno (PCL). Optioned OF Dominic Fletcher to Reno.
Cincinnati Reds: Reinstated RHP Fernando Cruz from the 15-day IL. Placed 1B Will Myers on the 10-day IL, retroactive to May 24. Optioned RHP Alan Busenitz to Louisville (IL). Recalled RF Will Benson from Louisville.
Colorado Rockies: Recalled INF/OF Nolan Jones from Albuquerque (PCL). Optioned INF/OF Michael Toglia to Albuquerque.
Los Angeles Dodgers: Reinstated LHP Clayton Kershaw from the bereavement list. Optioned RHP Tayler Scott to Oklahoma City (PCL). Claimed RHP Zack Burdi off waivers from Tampa Bay. Transferred RHP Tyler Cyr from the 15-day IL to the 60-day IL.
Miami Marlins: Assigned CF Jesus Sanchez to Jacksonville (IL) on a rehab assignment.
Milwaukee Brewers: Recalled LHP Ethan Small from Nashville (IL). Optioned RHP Tyson Miller to Nashville.
Philadelphia Phillies: Claimed OF Cal Stevenson off waivers from San Francisco and optioned him to Lehigh Valley (IL). Transferred RHP Noah Song from the 15-day IL to the 60-day IL.

WNBA

EAST	W	L	Pct	GB
Connecticut	3	0	1.000	—
Chicago	2	1	.667	1
Washington	2	2	.500	1½
New York	1	1	.500	1½
Atlanta	1	1	.500	1½
Indiana	0	2	.000	2½

WEST	W	L	Pct	GB
Las Vegas	2	0	1.000	—
x-Dallas	1	0	1.000	½
Los Angeles	1	1	.500	1
Phoenix	1	2	.333	1½
x-Seattle	0	1	.000	1½
Minnesota	0	3	.000	2½

x-Late game

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Las Vegas 94, at Los Angeles 85
at Phoenix 90, Minnesota 81

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

Washington 71, at Chicago 69
Dallas at Seattle, late

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Connecticut at New York, 1
Los Angeles at Las Vegas, 9

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Indiana at Atlanta, 3
Dallas at Chicago, 6
Minnesota at Las Vegas, 9

Mystics 71, Sky 69

Washington	**18**	**22**	**20**	**11**	**—**	**71**
Chicago	**18**	**16**	**19**	**16**	**—**	**69**

WASHINGTON	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Delle Donne	31:18	10-17	2-3	1-3	2	0	25
Sykes	28:29	1-9	3-4	1-7	4	2	5
Austin	29:55	5-9	5-6	1-11	1	3	15
Atkins	28:22	2-10	2-2	1-3	3	2	6
Cloud	29:13	0-4	1-2	1-1	7	3	1
Walker-Kimbrough	19:36	1-5	0-0	1-3	0	0	3
Toliver	11:41	1-3	1-1	0-0	1	2	4
Hawkins	10:25	2-4	2-2	1-2	0	0	6
Zahui B	8:12	1-4	0-0	0-3	1	1	3
Meng	2:49	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	1	3
TOTALS	**200**	**24-66**	**16-20**	**7-33**	**19**	**14**	**71**

Percentages: FG .364, FT .800. **3-Point Goals:** 7-17, .412 (Delle Donne 3-5, Meng 1-1, Toliver 1-1, Zahui B 1-2, Walker-Kimbrough 1-3, Sykes 0-2, Atkins 0-3). **Team Rebounds:** 8. **Team Turnovers:** 1. **Blocked Shots:** 4 (Austin, Delle Donne, Hawkins, Walker-Kimbrough). **Turnovers:** 15 (Austin 4, Cloud 3, Sykes 2, Atkins, Delle Donne, Meng, Toliver, Walker-Kimbrough, Zahui B). **Steals:** 10 (Atkins 5, Austin 2, Cloud, Sykes, Toliver). **Technical Fouls:** None.

CHICAGO	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Bertsch	12:50	1-1	0-0	0-2	1	0	2
Copper	28:18	5-12	2-4	0-2	2	3	12
E.Williams	33:36	4-8	1-2	1-3	1	2	9
Mabrey	26:27	8-15	1-1	0-5	4	3	19
C.Williams	30:45	5-12	0-0	0-9	5	2	13
Evans	24:46	3-8	3-4	0-0	4	2	10
Gardner	24:08	1-1	2-2	1-7	3	1	4
Smith	8:25	0-2	0-0	0-0	0	5	0
Parks	5:33	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	0	0
Anigwe	5:12	0-1	0-0	1-3	0	1	0
TOTALS	**200**	**27-61**	**9-13**	**3-32**	**20**	**19**	**69**

Percentages: FG .443, FT .692. **3-Point Goals:** 6-21, .286 (C.Williams 3-3, Mabrey 2-7, Evans 1-6, Parks 0-1, Smith 0-1, Copper 0-3). **Team Rebounds:** 11. **Team Turnovers:** 2. **Blocked Shots:** 6 (E.Williams 2, Mabrey 2, Bertsch, Copper). **Turnovers:** 21 (Mabrey 6, Gardner 4, Copper 3, C.Williams 2, Evans 2, Smith 2, Anigwe, E.Williams). **Steals:** 5 (Copper 2, Gardner 2, Evans). **Technical Fouls:** coach James Wade, 3:48 second. **A:** 7,304 (10,387)

Mercury 90, Lynx 81

Late Thursday

Minnesota	**18**	**22**	**22**	**19**	**—**	**81**
Phoenix	**27**	**30**	**15**	**18**	**—**	**90**

MINNESOTA	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Collier	29:26	3-9	2-2	2-7	4	1	8
Miller	26:04	2-9	9-9	0-1	1	3	13
Shepard	30:12	5-9	3-4	0-3	2	3	13
Allen	24:18	2-6	1-2	1-4	3	5	6
Mitchell	31:16	5-9	2-3	1-2	4	3	12
Powers	24:07	8-15	3-3	0-4	0	0	20
Milic	13:27	2-4	2-2	2-3	1	0	6
Carleton	10:45	1-5	0-0	0-1	1	4	3
Juhász	6:55	0-3	0-0	0-0	1	1	0
Banham	3:30	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	2	0
TOTALS	**200**	**28-70**	**22-25**	**6-25**	**17**	**22**	**81**

Percentages: FG .400, FT .880. **3-Point Goals:** 3-18, .167 (Powers 1-1, Allen 1-3, Carleton 1-4, Banham 0-1, Juhász 0-1, Collier 0-2, Mitchell 0-2, Miller 0-4). **Team Rebounds:** 10. **Team Turnovers:** None. **Blocked Shots:** 2 (Carleton, Collier). **Turnovers:** 11 (Allen 2, Collier 2, Mitchell 2, Banham, Milic, Miller, Powers, Shepard). **Steals:** 8 (Collier 2, Allen, Banham, Miller, Mitchell, Powers, Shepard). **Technical Fouls:** None.

PHOENIX	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Cunningham	24:16	4-10	2-2	0-5	3	6	13
Onyenwere	18:36	2-2	0-0	2-3	2	4	6
Griner	30:51	7-9	5-6	1-8	1	3	19
Jefferson	26:48	5-13	0-0	0-0	2	2	13
Taurasi	32:03	5-12	9-10	0-3	10	1	23
Sutton	32:49	4-8	5-5	0-2	3	1	14
Turner	25:29	1-2	0-0	3-11	2	4	2
Sissoko	6:30	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	3	0
Westbrook	2:38	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	1	0
TOTALS	**200**	**28-57**	**21-23**	**6-33**	**23**	**25**	**90**

Percentages: FG .491, FT .913. **3-Point Goals:** 13-28, .464 (Taurasi 4-9, Jefferson 3-5, Cunningham 3-8, Onyenwere 2-2, Sutton 1-3, Westbrook 0-1). **Team Rebounds:** 8. **Team Turnovers:** 1. **Blocked Shots:** 5 (Griner 3, Onyenwere, Sissoko). **Turnovers:** 18 (Griner 5, Taurasi 3, Turner 3, Cunningham 2, Jefferson 2, Onyenwere, Sissoko, Sutton). **Steals:** 5 (Cunningham 2, Jefferson, Taurasi, Turner). **Technical Fouls:** Mercury, 00:30 first. **A:** 6,057 (18,422)

Aces 94, Sparks 85

Late Thursday

Las Vegas	**15**	**21**	**31**	**27**	**—**	**94**
Los Angeles	**25**	**21**	**17**	**22**	**—**	**85**

LAS VEGAS	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Wilson	31:57	4-12	11-13	4-13	1	3	19
Young	35:06	12-18	2-4	0-3	2	2	30
Parker	22:16	3-7	2-2	0-8	1	1	10
Gray	37:09	6-9	2-2	0-1	8	4	16
Plum	35:07	2-6	5-6	0-3	5	3	9
Stokes	19:57	2-3	0-1	1-9	0	0	4
Clark	18:28	2-4	0-0	0-0	1	3	6
TOTALS	**200**	**31-59**	**22-28**	**5-37**	**18**	**16**	**94**

Percentages: FG .525, FT .786. **3-Point Goals:** 10-23, .435 (Young 4-7, Gray 2-3, Clark 2-4, Parker 2-4, Stokes 0-1, Wilson 0-1, Plum 0-3). **Team Rebounds:** 8. **Team Turnovers:** None. **Blocked Shots:** 6 (Wilson 2, Clark, Parker, Stokes, Young). **Turnovers:** 20 (Young 5, Gray 4, Parker 4, Plum 4, Wilson 3). **Steals:** 8 (Young 4, Gray 2, Plum, Wilson). **Technical Fouls:** Wilson, 7:29 third.

LOS ANGELES	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Clarendon	34:35	3-10	1-2	0-1	6	3	8
Hamby	27:07	3-12	5-7	2-5	2	4	11
C.Ogwumike	28:10	8-16	3-6	1-8	3	4	19
Brown	30:31	6-9	1-1	1-3	5	0	15
Canada	27:04	4-11	2-2	1-6	4	4	11
Kar.Samuelson	21:24	3-7	2-2	0-0	0	4	11
Holmes	16:55	3-7	0-0	0-5	1	2	6
Cooke	14:13	2-4	0-0	1-2	2	1	4
TOTALS	**200**	**32-76**	**14-20**	**6-30**	**23**	**22**	**85**

Percentages: FG .421, FT .700. **3-Point Goals:** 7-19, .368 (Kar.Samuelson 3-6, Brown 2-4, Canada 1-2, Clarendon 1-3, C.Ogwumike 0-1, Cooke 0-1, Holmes 0-2). **Team Rebounds:** 9. **Team Turnovers:** None. **Blocked Shots:** 4 (C.Ogwumike 2, Cooke, Holmes). **Turnovers:** 11 (Canada 5, Clarendon 3, Kar.Samuelson 2, Cooke). **Steals:** 16 (Canada 4, Brown 3, Clarendon 3, Hamby 3, C.Ogwumike 2, Kar.Samuelson). **Technical Fouls:** None. **A:** 7,314 (18,997)

HIGH SCHOOLS

SOFTBALL
MARYLAND

Damascus 2, Reservoir 0
Rising Sun 1, Calvert 0

VIRGINIA

Falls Church 12, Edison 11
Lake Braddock 3, West Potomac 2
McLean 10, South Lakes 0
Robinson 16, South County 6

BOYS' SOCCER
VIRGINIA

Osbourn 2, Woodbridge 1

BOYS' LACROSSE
VIRGINIA

Dominion 14, Broad Run 5
Madison 12, Yorktown 10
Robinson 12, Lake Braddock 11

GIRLS' LACROSSE
VIRGINIA

Dominion 18, Lightridge 3
Madison 9, Oakton 8
Woodson 9, Robinson 4

BASEBALL
MARYLAND

Sherwood 7, Urbana 4

VIRGINIA

Hayfield 9, Fairfax 4
Lake Braddock 13, Alexandria City 0
Madison 7, Oakton 6
Tuscarora 4, Heritage 0
Westfield 4, Centreville 0
Woodson 5, Edison 0

HOCKEY

Stanley Cup playoffs

FIRST ROUND

Best of seven.

EASTERN CONFERENCE
PANTHERS ELIMINATED BRUINS, 4-3

Game 1: at Boston 3, Florida 1
Game 2: Florida 6, at Boston 3
Game 3: Boston 4, at Florida 2
Game 4: Boston 6, at Florida 2
Game 5: Florida 4, at Boston 3 (OT)
Game 6: at Florida 7, Boston 5
Game 7: Florida 4, at Boston 3 (OT)

HURRICANES ELIMINATED ISLANDERS, 4-2

Game 1: at Carolina 2, N.Y. Islanders 1
Game 2: at Carolina 4, N.Y. Islanders 3 (OT)
Game 3: at N.Y. Islanders 5, Carolina 1
Game 4: Carolina 5, at N.Y. Islanders 2
Game 5: N.Y. Islanders 3, at Carolina 2
Game 6: Carolina 2, at N.Y. Islanders 1 (OT)

DEVILS ELIMINATED RANGERS, 4-3

Game 1: N.Y. Rangers 5, at New Jersey 1
Game 2: N.Y. Rangers 5, at New Jersey 1
Game 3: New Jersey 2, at N.Y. Rangers 1 (OT)
Game 4: New Jersey 3, at N.Y. Rangers 1
Game 5: at New Jersey 4, N.Y. Rangers 0
Game 6: at N.Y. Rangers 5, New Jersey 2
Game 7: at New Jersey 4, N.Y. Rangers 0

MAPLE LEAFS ELIMINATED LIGHTNING, 4-2

Game 1: Tampa Bay 7, at Toronto 3
Game 2: at Toronto 7, Tampa Bay 2
Game 3: Toronto 4, at Tampa Bay 3 (OT)
Game 4: Toronto 5, at Tampa Bay 4 (OT)
Game 5: Tampa Bay 4, at Toronto 2
Game 6: Toronto 2, at Tampa Bay 1 (OT)

WESTERN CONFERENCE
OILERS ELIMINATED KINGS, 4-2

Game 1: Los Angeles 4, at Edmonton 3 (OT)
Game 2: at Edmonton 4, Los Angeles 2
Game 3: at Los Angeles 3, Edmonton 2 (OT)
Game 4: Edmonton 5, at Los Angeles 4 (OT)
Game 5: at Edmonton 6, Los Angeles 3
Game 6: Edmonton 5, at Los Angeles 4

STARS ELIMINATED WILD, 4-2

Game 1: Minnesota 3, at Dallas 2 (2OT)
Game 2: at Dallas 7, Minnesota 3
Game 3: at Minnesota 5, Dallas 1
Game 4: Dallas 3, at Minnesota 2
Game 5: at Dallas 4, Minnesota 0
Game 6: Dallas 4, at Minnesota 1

KRAKEN ELIMINATED AVALANCHE, 4-3

Game 1: Seattle 3 at Colorado 1
Game 2: at Colorado 3, Seattle 2
Game 3: Colorado 6, at Seattle 4
Game 4: at Seattle 3, Colorado 2
Game 5: Seattle 3, at Colorado 2
Game 6: Colorado 4, at Seattle 1
Game 7: Seattle 2, at Colorado 1

GOLDEN KNIGHTS ELIMINATED JETS, 4-1

Game 1: Winnipeg 5, at Vegas 1
Game 2: at Vegas 5, Winnipeg 2
Game 3: Vegas 5, at Winnipeg 4 (2OT)
Game 4: Vegas 4, at Winnipeg 2
Game 5: at Vegas 4, Winnipeg 1

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

Best of seven.

EASTERN CONFERENCE
PANTHERS ELIMINATED MAPLE LEAFS, 4-1

Game 1: Florida 4, at Toronto 2
Game 2: Florida 3, at Toronto 2
Game 3: at Florida 3, Toronto 2 (OT)
Game 4: Toronto 2, at Florida 1
Game 5: Florida 3, at Toronto 2 (OT)

HURRICANES ELIMINATED DEVILS, 4-1

Game 1: at Carolina 5, New Jersey 1
Game 2: at Carolina 6, New Jersey 1
Game 3: at New Jersey 8, Carolina 4
Game 4: Carolina 6, at New Jersey 1
Game 5: at Carolina 3, New Jersey 2 (OT)

WESTERN CONFERENCE
GOLDEN KNIGHTS ELIMINATED OILERS, 4-2

Game 1: at Vegas 6, Edmonton 4
Game 2: Edmonton 5, at Vegas 1
Game 3: Vegas 5, at Edmonton 1
Game 4: at Edmonton 4, Vegas 1
Game 5: at Vegas 4, Edmonton 3
Game 6: Vegas 5, at Edmonton 2

STARS ELIMINATED KRAKEN, 4-3

Game 1: Seattle 5, at Dallas 4 (OT)
Game 2: at Dallas 4, Seattle 2
Game 3: at Seattle 7, Dallas 2
Game 4: Dallas 6, at Seattle 3
Game 5: at Dallas 5, Seattle 2
Game 6: at Seattle 6, Dallas 3
Game 7: at Dallas 2, Seattle 1

CONFERENCE FINALS

Best of seven; x-If necessary.

EASTERN CONFERENCE
PANTHERS ELIMINATED HURRICANES, 4-0

Game 1: Florida 3, at Carolina 2 (4OT)
Game 2: Florida 2, at Carolina 1 (OT)
Game 3: at Florida 1, Carolina 0
Game 4: at Florida 4, Carolina 3

WESTERN CONFERENCE
GOLDEN KNIGHTS LEAD STARS, 3-1

Game 1: at Vegas 4, Dallas 3 (OT)
Game 2: at Vegas 3, Dallas 2 (OT)
Game 3: Vegas 4, at Dallas 0
Game 4: at Dallas 3, Vegas 2 (OT)
Saturday's game: Dallas at Vegas, 8, ABC
x-Monday's game: Vegas at Dallas, 8, ESPN
x-Wenesday's game: Dallas at Vegas, 9, ESPN

STANLEY CUP FINALS
PANTHERS VS. GOLDEN KNIGHTS-STARS WINNER

TBD

AUTO RACING

IndyCar

INDIANAPOLIS 500 LINEUP

After Friday qualifying; race Saturday.
At Indianapolis Motor Speedway
Lap length: 2.5 miles
(Car number in parentheses)

1. (10) Alex Palou, D/H/F, 02:33.7037 (234.217 mph).
2. (21) Rinus VeeKay, D/C/F, 02:33.7077 (234.211).
3. (6) Felix Rosenqvist, D/C/F, 02:33.7713 (234.114).
4. (14) Santino Ferrucci, D/C/F, 02:34.0695 (233.661).
5. (5) Pato O'Ward, D/C/F, 02:34.4015 (233.158).
6. (9) Scott Dixon, D/H/F, 02:34.4066 (233.151).
7. (7) Alexander Rossi, D/C/F, 02:34.4332 (233.110).
8. (11) Takuma Sato, D/H/F, 02:34.4416 (233.098).
9. (66) Tony Kanaan, D/C/F, 02:34.4558 (233.076).
10. (8) Marcus Ericsson, D/H/F, 02:34.5801 (232.889).
11. (55) Benjamin Pedersen, D/C/F, 02:34.7246 (232.671).
12. (12) Will Power, D/C/F, 02:34.7488 (232.635).
13. (33) Ed Carpenter, D/C/F, 02:34.7128 (232.689).
14. (3) Scott McLaughlin, D/C/F, 02:34.7206 (232.677).
15. (27) Kyle Kirkwood, D/H/F, 02:34.7311 (232.662).
16. (20) Conor Daly, D/C/F, 02:34.8833 (232.433).
17. (2) Josef Newgarden, D/C/F, 02:34.9039 (232.402).
18. (23) Ryan Hunter-Reay, D/C/F, 02:35.0837 (232.133).
19. (28) Romain Grosjean, D/H/F, 02:35.1744 (231.997).
20. (06) Helio Castroneves, D/H/F, 02:35.2032 (231.954).
21. (26) Colton Herta, D/H/F, 02:35.2055 (231.951).
22. (60) Simon Pagenaud, D/H/F, 02:35.2539 (231.878).
23. (18) David Malukas, D/H/F, 02:35.3270 (231.769).
24. (98) Marco Andretti, D/H/F, 02:35.3857 (231.682).
25. (24) Stefan Wilson, D/C/F, 02:35.4083 (231.648).
26. (29) Devlin DeFrancesco, D/H/F, 02:35.6061 (231.353).
27. (78) Agustin Canapino, D/C/F, 02:35.6287 (231.320).
28. (77) Callum Ilott, D/C/F, 02:35.7212 (231.182).
29. (50) RC Enerson, D/C/F, 02:35.7574 (231.129).
30. (44) Katherine Legge, D/H/F, 02:35.7971 (231.070).
31. (45) Christian Lundgaard, D/H/F, 02:36.7607 (229.649).
32. (51) Sting Ray Robb, D/H/F, 02:36.8293 (229.549).
33. (30) Jack Harvey, D/H/F, 02:37.0916 (229.166).

NASCAR Xfinity Series

ALSCO UNIFORMS 300 LINEUP

After Friday qualifying; race Saturday.
At Charlotte Motor Speedway; In Concord, N.C.
Lap length: 1.50 miles
(Car number in parentheses)

1. (7) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 181.172 mph.
2. (20) John H. Nemechek, Toyota, 180.246.
3. (19) Ty Gibbs, Toyota, 180.228.
4. (00) Cole Custer, Ford, 179.940.
5. (9) Brandon Jones, Chevrolet, 179.057.
6. (10) Kyle Busch, Chevrolet, 178.826.
7. (2) Sheldon Creed, Chevrolet, 178.583.
8. (1) Sam Mayer, Chevrolet, 178.554.
9. (27) Jeb Burton, Chevrolet, 178.548.
10. (16) Chandler Smith, Chevrolet, 178.436.
11. (11) Daniel Hemric, Chevrolet, 178.365.
12. (25) Brett Moffitt, Ford, 178.065.
13. (98) Riley Herbst, Ford, 177.918.
14. (8) Josh Berry, Chevrolet, 177.801.
15. (77) Carson Hocevar, Chevrolet, 177.754.
16. (78) Anthony Alfredo, Chevrolet, 177.719.
17. (21) Austin Hill, Chevrolet, 177.439.
18. (18) Sammy Smith, Toyota, 177.322.
19. (44) Rajah Caruth, Chevrolet, 177.212.
20. (48) Parker Kligerman, Chevrolet, 176.864.
21. (91) Kyle Weatherman, Chevrolet, 176.725.
22. (07) Stefan Parsons, Chevrolet, 175.143.
23. (38) Joe Graf Jr, Ford, 174.944.
24. (28) Kyle Sieg, Ford, 174.836.
25. (24) Connor Mosack, Toyota, 174.639.
26. (74) Dawson Cram, Chevrolet, 174.003.
27. (51) Jeremy Clements, Chevrolet, 173.594.
28. (4) Garrett Smithley, Chevrolet, 173.444.
29. (92) Josh Williams, Chevrolet, 173.277.
30. (43) Ryan Ellis, Chevrolet, 172.496.
31. (6) Brennan Poole, Chevrolet, 172.458.
32. (26) Kaz Grala, Toyota, 172.326.
33. (08) Natalie Decker, Ford, 172.073.
34. (35) Patrick Emerling, Ford, 170.859.
35. (02) Blaine Perkins, Chevrolet, 170.562.
36. (39) Ryan Sieg, Ford, .000.
37. (31) Parker Retzlaff, Chevrolet, .000.
38. (45) Jeffrey Earnhardt, Chevrolet, .000.

FAILED TO QUALIFY

39. (66) Timmy Hill, Toyota, 170.143.
40. (53) Cj McLaughlin, Chevrolet, 169.945.

SOCCER

MLS

EAST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Cincinnati	9	1	3	30	21	14
Nashville	7	3	4	25	19	9
New England	7	3	3	24	19	14
Atlanta	6	4	4	22	28	24
Philadelphia	6	4	3	21	20	14
D.C. United	5	5	4	19	19	16
Orlando City	5	4	4	19	16	16
Columbus	5	5	3	18	25	17
Charlotte FC	5	6	3	18	19	25
New York City FC	4	5	4	16	15	16
New York	3	4	7	16	10	12
Inter Miami CF	5	8	0	15	14	17
CF Montréal	5	8	0	15	12	22
Chicago	3	4	6	15	18	21
Toronto FC	2	5	7	13	13	18

WEST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles FC	7	1	4	25	23	10
Seattle	7	5	2	23	20	13
St. Louis City SC	7	4	1	22	26	13
FC Dallas	6	3	4	22	16	13
San Jose	5	5	3	18	17	18
Minnesota United	5	5	3	18	12	14
Vancouver	4	4	5	17	18	14
Portland	4	6	4	16	18	20
Austin FC	4	5	4	16	13	18
Houston	4	5	3	15	11	11
Real Salt Lake	4	6	3	15	13	22
Colorado	2	6	6	12	12	21
Sporting KC	2	8	4	10	9	21
LA Galaxy	2	8	3	9	10	23

SATURDAY, MAY 20

at D.C. United 3, LA Galaxy 0
Nashville 2, at Charlotte FC 1
at Cincinnati 3, Columbus 2
Orlando City 3, at Miami 1
at New York 2, CF Montréal 1
at Philadelphia 3, New England 0
at Austin FC 1, Toronto FC 0
Atlanta 3, at Chicago 3
Houston 1, at FC Dallas 1
Real Salt Lake 3, at Colorado 2
at St. Louis City SC 4, Sporting KC 0
at Los Angeles FC 2, San Jose 1
Minnesota 1, at Portland 0
at Vancouver 2, Seattle 0

SATURDAY'S MATCHES

D.C. United at Toronto FC, 7:30
Miami at CF Montréal, 7:30
Chicago at New England, 7:30
Philadelphia at New York City FC, 7:30
Atlanta at Orlando City, 7:30
Austin FC at Houston, 8:30
Real Salt Lake at Minnesota, 8:30
Vancouver at St. Louis City SC, 8:30
Cincinnati at Colorado, 9:30
Charlotte FC at LA Galaxy, 10:30
FC Dallas at San Jose, 10:30
New York at Seattle, 10:30

SUNDAY'S MATCHES

Portland at Sporting KC, 3
Columbus at Nashville, 8:30

WEDNESDAY'S MATCHES

CF Montréal at D.C. United, 7:30
New England at Atlanta, 7
Colorado at Columbus, 7:30
New York at Miami, 7:30
Cincinnati at New York City FC, 7:30
Charlotte FC at Philadelphia, 7:30
Chicago at Toronto FC, 7:30
Minnesota at Austin FC, 8:30
FC Dallas at Sporting KC, 8:30
LA Galaxy at Real Salt Lake, 9:30
St. Louis City SC at Los Angeles FC ppd.
San Jose at Seattle, 10:30
Houston at Vancouver, 10:30

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

D.C. United at Miami, 7:30
New England at New York City FC, 3:30
Portland at Seattle, 4:30
Chicago at Cincinnati, 7:30
Charlotte FC at Columbus, 7:30
Orlando City at New York, 7:30
CF Montréal at Philadelphia, 7:30
Real Salt Lake at Austin FC, 8:30
Nashville at FC Dallas, 8:30
Toronto FC at Minnesota, 8:30
Houston at St. Louis City SC, 8:30
San Jose at Colorado, 9:30
Atlanta at Los Angeles FC ppd.
Sporting KC at Vancouver, 10:30

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Gotham FC	5	2	1	16	11	7
x-Portland	4	1	3	15	22	10
x-San Diego	5	3	0	15	15	10
Washington	4	1	3	15	11	7
OL Reign	4	3	1	13	13	10
Houston	3	3	3	12	7	9
North Carolina	3	3	2	11	8	9
Louisville	2	2	4	10	11	9
Orlando	3	4	1	10	7	12
Angel City	2	3	3	9	11	13
Kansas City	2	7	0	6	9	18
Chicago	1	6	1	4	11	22

x-Late match

SATURDAY, MAY 20

at Orlando 2, Washington 1
Angel City 0, at North Carolina 0
Louisville 2, at Kansas City 0
San Diego 3, at Houston 0

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

at Portland 4, Chicago 0
Gotham FC 4, at OL Reign 1

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

Houston 2, at Kansas City 0
Portland at San Diego, late

SATURDAY'S MATCHES

Angel City at OL Reign, 3:30
North Carolina at Louisville, 8
Orlando at Chicago, 8

SUNDAY'S MATCH

Gotham FC at Washington, 5

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

Louisville at Washington, 8
Portland at OL Reign, 8
Orlando at Houston, 8:30
North Carolina at Kansas City, 8:30

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

San Diego at Gotham FC, 5:30

MONDAY, JUNE 5

Chicago at Angel City, 10

FRIDAY, JUNE 9

San Diego at Louisville, 8

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

NCAA tournament

Host school is home team for Game 1; visiting school is home team for Game 2; coin flip determines home team for Game 3.

SUPER REGIONALS

Best of three; x-If necessary.

STANFORD LEADS DUKE, 1-0
IN DURHAM, N.C.

Game 1: Stanford 3, at Duke 1
Saturday's game: Duke at Stanford, 3
x-Sunday's game: Stanford at Duke, TBD

OKLAHOMA LEADS CLEMSON, 1-0
IN NORMAN, OKLA.

Game 1: at Oklahoma 9, Clemson 2
Saturday's game: Oklahoma at Clemson , 1
x-Sunday's game: Clemson at Oklahoma, TBD

OKLAHOMA STATE ELIMINATED OREGON, 2-0
IN STILLWATER, OKLA.

Game 1: at Oklahoma State 8, Oregon 1
Game 2: Oklahoma State 9, at Oregon 0

FLORIDA STATE ELIMINATED GEORGIA, 2-0
IN TALLAHASSEE

Game 1: at Florida State 8, Georgia 1
Game 2: Florida State 4, at Georgia 2

TENNESSEE LEADS TEXAS, 1-0
IN KNOXVILLE, TENN.

Game 1: at Tennessee 5, Texas 2
Saturday's game: Tennessee at Texas, 3
x-Sunday's game: Texas at Tennessee, TBD

NORTHWESTERN LEAD ALABAMA, 1-0
IN TUSCALOOSA, ALA.

Game 1: Northwestern 3, at Alabama 1
Saturday's game: Alabama at Northwestern, 9
x-Sunday's game: Northwestern at Alabama, TBD

LOUISIANA VS. WASHINGTON
IN SEATTLE

Game 1: Louisiana at Washington, late
Saturday's game: Washington at Louisiana, 7
x-Sunday's game: Louisiana at Washington, TBD

SAN DIEGO STATE VS. UTAH
IN SALT LAKE CITY

Game 1: San Diego State at Utah, late
Saturday's game: Uath at San Diego State, 5
x-Sunday's game: San Diego State at Utah, TBD

WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

Double elimination.

JUNE 1-8/9

Teams TBD

TENNIS

ATP

LYON OPEN

At Parc de la Tete d'Or; In Lyon, France
Purse: $608,284
Surface: Red clay

SINGLES — SEMIFINALS

Francisco Cerundolo (4), Argentina, def. Cameron Norrie (2), Britain, 6-3, 6-0; Arthur Fils, France, def. Brandon Nakashima (8), United States, 7-5, 4-6, 7-6 (7-5).

DOUBLES — SEMIFINALS

Nicolas Mahut, France, and Matwe Middelkoop (3), Netherlands, def. Fabien Reboul and Sadio Doumbia, France, walkover.

GENEVA OPEN

At Tennis Club de Geneve Eaux-Vives; In Geneva
Purse: $608,284
Surface: Red clay

SINGLES — SEMIFINALS

Grigor Dimitrov (4), Bulgaria, def. Taylor Fritz (2), United States, 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (7-2); Nicolas Jarry, Chile, def. Alexander Zverev (3), Germany, 7-6 (7-3), 6-3.

DOUBLES — SEMIFINALS

Marcel Granollers, Spain, and Horacio Zeballos (3), Argentina, def. Jean-Julien Rojer, Netherlands, and Marcelo Arevalo-Gonzalez (1), El Salvador, 6-4, 7-5.

WTA

GRAND PRIX SON ALTESSE ROYALE LA PRINCESSE LALLA MERYEM

At Club des Cheminots; In Rabat, Morocco
Purse: $259,303
Surface: Red clay

SINGLES — SEMIFINALS

Julia Grabher, Austria, def. Julia Riera, Argentina, 6-1, 3-6, 7-6 (6); Lucia Bronzetti, Italy, def. Sloane Stephens (2), United States, 6-1, 6-1.

SINGLES — CHAMPIONSHIP

Sabrina Santamaria, United States, and Yana Sizikova, Russia, def. Lidziya Marozava, Belarus, and Ingrid Martins, Brazil, 3-6, 6-1, 10-8.

INTERNATIONAUX DE STRASBOURG

At Strasbourg (France) Tennis Club
Purse: $243,696
Surface: Red clay

SINGLES — SEMIFINALS

Anna Blinkova, Russia, def. Lauren Davis (7), United States, 6-2, 6-2; Elina Svitolina, Ukraine, def. Clara Burel, France, 4-6, 7-5, 6-3.

DOUBLES — SEMIFINALS

Desirae Krawczyk, United States, and Giuliana Olmos (2), Mexico, def. Tereza Mihalikova, Slovakia, and Miriam Kolodziejova, Czech Republic, 6-4, 5-7, 10-4.

ATP

SINGLES RANKINGS

Through Tuesday.

1. Carlos Alcaraz, Spain, 6815
2. Daniil Medvedev, Russia, 6330
3. Novak Djokovic, Serbia, 5955
4. Casper Ruud, Norway, 4915
5. Stefanos Tsitsipas, Greece, 4775
6. Holger Rune, Denmark, 4375
7. Andrey Rublev, Russia, 4270
8. Jannik Sinner, Italy, 3435
9. Taylor Fritz, USA, 3390
10. Felix Auger-Aliassime, Canada, 3065
11. Karen Khachanov, Russia, 2945
12. Frances Tiafoe, USA, 2790
13. Hubert Hurkacz, Poland, 2525
14. Cameron Norrie, Great Britain, 2520
15. Rafael Nadal, Spain, 2445
16. Borna Coric, Croatia, 2410
17. Tommy Paul, USA, 2135
18. Lorenzo Musetti, Italy, 2040
19. Alex de Minaur, Australia, 1870
20. Matteo Berrettini, Italy, 1832
21. Pablo Carreno Busta, Spain, 1740
22. Marin Cilic, Croatia, 1510
23. Roberto Bautista Agut, Spain, 1485
24. Daniel Evans, Great Britain, 1480
25. Nick Kyrgios, Australia, 1465
26. Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany, 1447
27. Alexander Zverev, Germany, 1360
28. Francisco Cerundolo, Argentina, 1345
29. Sebastian Korda, USA, 1265
30. Botic Van de Zandschulp, Netherlands, 1215
31. Denis Shapovalov, Canada, 1210
32. Yoshihito Nishioka, Japan, 1181
33. Grigor Dimitrov, Bulgaria, 1125
34. Alejandro Davidovich Fokina, Spain, 1115
35. Ben Shelton, USA, 1095
36. Miomir Kecmanovic, Serbia, 1055
37. Bernabe Zapata Miralles, Spain, 1041
38. Ugo Humbert, France, 1026
39. Tallon Griekspoor, Netherlands, 1024
40. Jiri Lehecka, Czech Republic, 994
41. Andy Murray, Great Britain, 975
42. Maxime Cressy, USA, 975
43. Emil Ruusuvuori, Finland, 956
44. Sebastian Baez, Argentina, 955
45. Lorenzo Sonego, Italy, 925
46. Tomas Martin Etcheverry, Argentina, 920
47. Adrian Mannarino, France, 917
48. Alexander Bublik, Kazakhstan, 915
49. Jeffrey John Wolf, USA, 905
50. Richard Gasquet, France, 901

DOUBLES RANKINGS

1. Neal Skupski, Great Britain, 6640

WTA

SINGLES RANKINGS

Through Tuesday.

1. Iga Swiatek, Poland, 8940
2. Aryna Sabalenka, Belarus, 7541
3. Jessica Pegula, USA, 5205
4. Elena Rybakina, Kazakhstan, 5090
5. Caroline Garcia, France, 5025
6. Coco Gauff, USA, 4305
7. Ons Jabeur, Tunisia, 3541
8. Maria Sakkari, Greece, 3391
9. Daria Kasatkina, Russia, 3275
10. Petra Kvitova, Czech Republic, 3162
11. Veronika Kudermetova, Russia, 2950
12. Belinda Bencic, Switzerland, 2750
13. Barbora Krejcikova, Czech Republic, 2680
14. Beatriz Haddad Maia, Brazil, 2420
15. Liudmila Samsonova, Russia, 2236
16. Karolina Pliskova, Czech Republic, 2160
17. Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia, 2130
18. Victoria Azarenka, Belarus, 2087
19. Zheng Qinwen, China, 1998
20. Madison Keys, USA, 1861
21. Magda Linette, Poland, 1825
22. Donna Vekic, Croatia, 1813
23. Ekaterina Alexandrova, Russia, 1725
24. Anastasia Potapova, Russia, 1665
25. Anhelina Kalinina, Ukraine, 1657
26. Martina Trevisan, Italy, 1608
27. Irina-Camelia Begu, Romania, 1452
28. Elise Mertens, Belgium, 1439
29. Paula Badosa, Spain, 1363
30. Zhang Shuai, China, 1355
31. Sorana Cirstea, Romania, 1327
32. Marie Bouzkova, Czech Republic, 1318
33. Shelby Rogers, USA, 1303
34. Simona Halep, Romania, 1290
35. Sloane Stephens, USA, 1280
36. Camila Giorgi, Italy, 1278
37. Petra Martic, Croatia, 1270
38. Bernarda Pera, USA, 1237
39. Marta Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1225
40. Zhu Lin, China, 1175
41. Bianca Andreescu, Canada, 1142
42. Karolina Muchova, Czech Republic, 1125
43. Elisabetta Cocciaretto, Italy, 1115
44. Varvara Gracheva, Russia, 1102
45. Danielle Collins, USA, 1073
46. Ajla Tomljanovic, Australia, 1072
47. Katerina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 1057
48. Linda Noskova, Czech Republic, 1050
49. Alycia Parks, USA, 1049
50. Aliaksandra Sasnovich, Belarus, 1034

PRO FOOTBALL

USFL

NORTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	3	3	0	.500	106	140
New Jersey	2	4	0	.333	106	103
Pittsburgh	2	4	0	.333	82	108
Michigan	2	4	0	.333	96	130

SOUTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	4	2	0	.667	145	127
Houston	4	2	0	.667	158	139
Birmingham	4	2	0	.667	171	117
Memphis	3	3	0	.500	119	119

WEEK 6
SATURDAY, MAY 20

at Memphis 22, Pittsburgh 0
Birmingham 27, at Michigan 13

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

at Philadelphia 16, New Orleans 10
at Houston 16, New Jersey 10

WEEK 7
SATURDAY'S GAMES

Birmingham at New Orleans, 4
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 9

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Houston at Memphis, 2:30
Michigan at New Jersey, 5:30

WEEK 8
SATURDAY, JUNE 3

Houston at Pittsburgh, 12
Philadelphia at Birmingham, 3

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

Memphis at New Jersey, 1
Michigan at New Orleans, 4

GOLF

PGA Tour

CHARLES SCHWAB CHALLENGE

At Colonial Country Club; In Fort Worth.
Purse: $8.7 million; **Yardage:** 7,209; **Par:** 70

SECOND ROUND

Harry Hall	62	66	—	128	-12
Harris English	65	66	—	131	-9
Emiliano Grillo	67	65	—	132	-8
Byeong Hun An	67	66	—	133	-7
Adam Schenk	66	67	—	133	-7
Robby Shelton	66	67	—	133	-7
Andrew Novak	68	66	—	134	-6
Scottie Scheffler	67	67	—	134	-6
Austin Eckroat	69	66	—	135	-5
Justin Rose	69	66	—	135	-5
Carson Young	69	66	—	135	-5
Ben Griffin	67	69	—	136	-4
Lee Hodges	69	67	—	136	-4
Max Homa	67	69	—	136	-4
David Lipsky	67	69	—	136	-4
Peter Malnati	69	67	—	136	-4
Andrew Putnam	66	70	—	136	-4
Chez Reavie	67	69	—	136	-4
Akshay Bhatia	69	68	—	137	-3
Sam Burns	67	70	—	137	-3
Si Woo Kim	67	70	—	137	-3
Kyoung-Hoon Lee	68	69	—	137	-3
Alex Noren	68	69	—	137	-3
Scott Piercy	69	68	—	137	-3
Chad Ramey	68	69	—	137	-3
Sam Stevens	71	66	—	137	-3
Kevin Streelman	68	69	—	137	-3
Christiaan Bezuidenhout	70	68	—	138	-2
Thomas Detry	70	68	—	138	-2
Ryan Fox	67	71	—	138	-2
Cody Gribble	70	68	—	138	-2
Mark Hubbard	69	69	—	138	-2
Michael Kim	67	71	—	138	-2
Patton Kizzire	69	69	—	138	-2
Min Woo Lee	67	71	—	138	-2
Justin Lower	70	68	—	138	-2
Ben Martin	69	69	—	138	-2
Justin Suh	68	70	—	138	-2
Erik Compton	69	70	—	139	-1
Zecheng Dou	70	69	—	139	-1
Rickie Fowler	68	71	—	139	-1
Will Gordon	71	68	—	139	-1
Brian Harman	70	69	—	139	-1
Russell Henley	68	71	—	139	-1
Kramer Hickok	70	69	—	139	-1
Viktor Hovland	71	68	—	139	-1
Matthew NeSmith	70	69	—	139	-1
Aaron Rai	71	68	—	139	-1
Patrick Rodgers	72	67	—	139	-1
J.J. Spaun	70	69	—	139	-1
Luke Donald	71	69	—	140	E
Tom Hoge	66	74	—	140	E
Luke List	70	70	—	140	E
Collin Morikawa	73	67	—	140	E
Austin Smotherman	67	73	—	140	E
Sepp Straka	69	71	—	140	E
Brendon Todd	69	71	—	140	E
Jimmy Walker	73	67	—	140	E
Aaron Baddeley	70	71	—	141	+1
Cameron Champ	70	71	—	141	+1
Joel Dahmen	72	69	—	141	+1
Paul Haley	73	68	—	141	+1
Nick Hardy	72	69	—	141	+1
Billy Horschel	67	74	—	141	+1
Beau Hossler	72	69	—	141	+1
Stephan Jaeger	72	69	—	141	+1
Kurt Kitayama	70	71	—	141	+1
Russell Knox	69	72	—	141	+1
Maverick McNealy	71	70	—	141	+1
Vincent Norrman	70	71	—	141	+1
Matthias Schwab	69	72	—	141	+1
Alex Smalley	70	71	—	141	+1

MISSED CUT

Tyson Alexander	72	70	—	142	+2
Cameron Davis	68	74	—	142	+2
Tony Finau	72	70	—	142	+2
Tommy Fleetwood	70	72	—	142	+2
Dylan Frittelli	67	75	—	142	+2
Sungjae Im	72	70	—	142	+2
Nate Lashley	68	74	—	142	+2
Adam Long	72	70	—	142	+2
Denny McCarthy	71	71	—	142	+2
Ryan Palmer	72	70	—	142	+2
Joseph Bramlett	73	70	—	143	+3
Hayden Buckley	73	70	—	143	+3
Eric Cole	69	74	—	143	+3
Pierceson Coody	71	72	—	143	+3
Lucas Herbert	70	73	—	143	+3
Troy Merritt	68	75	—	143	+3
Davis Riley	71	72	—	143	+3
Ben Taylor	71	72	—	143	+3
Matt Wallace	71	72	—	143	+3
Kyle Westmoreland	73	70	—	143	+3
Cole Hammer	72	72	—	144	+4
Taylor Moore	69	75	—	144	+4
Sam Ryder	74	70	—	144	+4
Jordan Spieth	72	72	—	144	+4
Nick Taylor	71	73	—	144	+4
Danny Willett	73	71	—	144	+4
MJ Daffue	73	72	—	145	+5
Harrison Endycott	74	71	—	145	+5
Chris Kirk	72	73	—	145	+5
Scott Stallings	71	74	—	145	+5
Dylan Wu	72	73	—	145	+5
Tyler Duncan	75	71	—	146	+6
J.T. Poston	75	71	—	146	+6
Greyson Sigg	74	72	—	146	+6
Kevin Tway	74	72	—	146	+6
Richy Werenski	71	75	—	146	+6
Seonghyeon Kim	75	72	—	147	+7
Kevin Kisner	74	73	—	147	+7
Callum Tarren	69	78	—	147	+7
Garrick Higgo	73	75	—	148	+8
Henrik Norlander	76	72	—	148	+8
Rory Sabbatini	77	71	—	148	+8
Erik Van Rooyen	76	72	—	148	+8
Zac Blair	73	76	—	149	+9
Zach Johnson	75	74	—	149	+9
David Lingmerth	75	74	—	149	+9
Harry Higgs	75	77	—	152	+12
Michael Block	81	74	—	155	+15

DP World Tour

KLM OPEN

At Bernardus Golf; In Cromvoirt, Netherlands
Purse: $2 million
Yardage: 7,445; **Par:** 72

SECOND ROUND

Jorge Campillo, Spain	63	71	—	134	-10
Renato Paratore, Italy	68	68	—	136	-8
Daniel Hillier, New Zealand	70	67	—	137	-7
Marcus Armitage, England	68	70	—	138	-6
Alejandro Del Rey Gonzalez, Spain	67	71	—	138	-6
Marcus Kinhult, Sweden	68	70	—	138	-6
Adrian Otaegui, Spain	67	71	—	138	-6
Dan Bradbury, England	72	67	—	139	-5
Todd Clements, England	69	70	—	139	-5
Gavin Green, Malaysia	69	70	—	139	-5
Jazz Janewattananond, Thailand	71	68	—	139	-5
Pablo Larrazabal, Spain	66	73	—	139	-5
Joost Luiten, Netherlands	67	72	—	139	-5
Adrian Meronk, Poland	69	70	—	139	-5
Richie Ramsay, Scotland	69	70	—	139	-5
Joel Stalter, France	66	73	—	139	-5
Kiradech Aphibarnrat, Thailand	67	73	—	140	-4
Rowin Caron, Netherlands	72	68	—	140	-4
Rasmus Hojgaard, Denmark	69	71	—	140	-4
Maximilian Kieffer, Germany	70	70	—	140	-4
Max Schmitt, Germany	71	69	—	140	-4
Andy Sullivan, England	66	74	—	140	-4
Julien Brun, France	69	72	—	141	-3
Deon Germishuys, South Africa	70	71	—	141	-3
Romain Langasque, France	69	72	—	141	-3
Matthieu Pavon, France	73	68	—	141	-3
Shubhankar Sharma, India	67	74	—	141	-3
Dale Whitnell, England	67	74	—	141	-3
Wenyi Ding, China	69	73	—	142	-2
Ewen Ferguson, Scotland	71	71	—	142	-2
Grant Forrest, Scotland	70	72	—	142	-2
Joshua Lee, United States	68	74	—	142	-2
Chengyao Ma, China	70	72	—	142	-2
Edoardo Molinari, Italy	68	74	—	142	-2
Niklas Norgaard Moller, Denmark	71	71	—	142	-2
James Morrison, England	71	71	—	142	-2
Tapio Pulkkanen, Finland	70	72	—	142	-2
Sebastian Soderberg, Sweden	73	69	—	142	-2
Clement Sordet, France	71	71	—	142	-2
Oliver Wilson, England	71	71	—	142	-2
Matthew Baldwin, England	72	71	—	143	-1
Filippo Celli, Italy	75	68	—	143	-1
Sean Crocker, United States	69	74	—	143	-1
Daan Huizing, Netherlands	75	68	—	143	-1
Matthew Jordan, England	74	69	—	143	-1
Tom McKibbin, Northern Ireland	71	72	—	143	-1
Kalle Samooja, Finland	72	71	—	143	-1
Marcel Schneider, Germany	74	69	—	143	-1
Lars Van Meijel, Netherlands	74	69	—	143	-1
Vince Van Veen, Netherlands	73	70	—	143	-1
Alexander Bjork, Sweden	71	73	—	144	E
Louis De Jager, South Africa	70	74	—	144	E
Jeremy Freiburghaus, Switzerland	71	73	—	144	E
Mateusz Gradecki, Poland	74	70	—	144	E
Julien Guerrier, France	73	71	—	144	E
Kristian Krogh Johannessen, Norway	73	71	—	144	E
David Law, Scotland	73	71	—	144	E
Mike Lorenzo-Vera, France	71	73	—	144	E
John Parry, England	67	77	—	144	E
David Ravetto, France	75	69	—	144	E
Antoine Rozner, France	73	71	—	144	E
Ricardo Santos, Portugal	71	73	—	144	E
Jayden Trey Schaper, South Africa	71	73	—	144	E
Freddy Schott, Germany	77	67	—	144	E
Marcel Siem, Germany	69	75	—	144	E
Lars Van Der Vight, Netherlands	75	69	—	144	E
John Axelsen, Denmark	70	75	—	145	+1
Daniel Brown, England	73	72	—	145	+1
Gonzalo Fernandez-Castano, Spain	72	73	—	145	+1
Ross Fisher, England	74	71	—	145	+1
Simon Forsstrom, Sweden	73	72	—	145	+1
Alfredo Garcia-Heredia, Spain	70	75	—	145	+1
Marcus Helligkilde, Denmark	73	72	—	145	+1
Ryo Hisatsune, Japan	72	73	—	145	+1
Rikuya Hoshino, Japan	73	72	—	145	+1
Mikael Lindberg, Sweden	69	76	—	145	+1
Hurly Long, Germany	74	71	—	145	+1
Matti Schmid, Germany	70	75	—	145	+1
Connor Syme, Scotland	72	73	—	145	+1
Johannes Veerman, United States	75	70	—	145	+1
Marc Warren, Scotland	72	73	—	145	+1
Daniel Gavins, England				WD	

MISSED CUT

Thomas Aiken, South Africa	69	77	—	146	+2
Nacho Elvira, Spain	72	74	—	146	+2
Scott Jamieson, Scotland	74	72	—	146	+2
Jerry Ji, Netherlands	74	72	—	146	+2
Jeong-Weon Ko, France	74	72	—	146	+2
Joakim Lagergren, Sweden	72	74	—	146	+2
Darius Van Driel, Netherlands	74	72	—	146	+2
Paul Waring, England	72	74	—	146	+2

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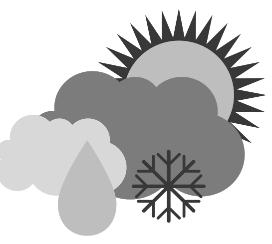

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815 Legal Notices

Department of Justice
Antitrust Division

Take notice that the United States has filed a proposed Final Judgment in a civil antitrust case in the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, *United States of America v. Cargill Meat Solutions Corp., et al.*, Civil Action No. 22-1821.

On July 25, 2022, the United States filed a Complaint against three poultry processors and a data consultant and its president to end a long-running conspiracy in the poultry processing industry. The Complaint alleged that poultry processors that together employ more than 90 percent of all poultry processing plant workers in the United States conspired to collaborate with and assist their competitors in making decisions about worker compensation, including wages and benefits, and to exchange information about current and future compensation plans for their processing plant workers, in violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1. The Complaint also alleged that data consultants facilitated the processors' collaboration and compensation information exchanges in violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1.

On May 17, 2023, the United States filed an Amended Complaint, which added settling defendants George's, Inc. and George's Foods, LLC (collectively "George's"), alleging that George's and the other conspirators participated in the conspiracy to exchange information about wages and benefits for poultry processing plant workers and collaborated with their competitors on compensation decisions.

The proposed Final Judgment, filed at the same time as the Amended Complaint, requires George's to cease its information-sharing. In addition, the Final Judgment imposes a number of prohibitions and requirements on George's. Under the terms of the proposed settlement, George's is prohibited from sharing or facilitating the sharing of competitively sensitive information among competitors and required to cooperate with the United States' ongoing investigation. Additionally, the court will appoint an external monitor to ensure George's compliance with the terms of the settlement and the antitrust laws. George's will also pay restitution to affected poultry processing workers.

A Competitive Impact Statement filed by the United States on May 17, 2023 describes the Amended Complaint, the proposed Final Judgment, the industry, and the remedies available to private litigants who may have been injured by the alleged violation. Copies of the Amended Complaint, proposed Final Judgment, and Competitive Impact Statement are available for inspection on the Antitrust Division's website at <http://www.justice.gov/atr> and at the Office of the Clerk of the United States District Court named above.

Interested persons may address comments in English to Chief, Civil Conduct Task Force, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice, 450 Fifth Street NW, Suite 8600, Washington, DC 20530 within 60 days of the date of this notice. Such comments, including the name of the submitter, and responses thereto will be posted on the Antitrust Division's website, filed with the Court, and, under certain circumstances, published in the *Federal Register.*

1405 Cars

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825 Bids & Proposals

THE SEED PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
(2) Brand New (15) Passenger Van

The SEED Public Charter School of Washington, D.C. is inviting firms to submit proposals for **(2) Brand New 15 Passenger Van.** Additional specifications outlined in the Request for Proposal (RFP) may be obtained between the hours of 8:00am-4:00pm from:

Carl Dyson
Campus Operations Manager
THE SEED PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL OF WASHINGTON, D.C.
4300 C Street, SE
Washington, DC 20019
CDyson@seedschooldc.org
202-248-7773 x 5045

The deadline for submitting bids is June 7th, 2023 at 12:00pm

All bids not addressing all areas as outlined in the RFP will not be considered.

MARYLAND Roommates

LOOK

HYATTSVILLE- Furn rm $160/wk or $600/mo+sec. Inc all util inc cable. F pref. Near Metro. No pets. **301-675-2016**

225 Collectibles

FOR SALE Best offer Collectible comic books and toys. Exc cond 202-744-2333

360 Estate Sales

SILVER SPRING, MD - 5/27, 5/28. 8:30-4pm. **8802 2nd Ave.** Men & womens clothing cheap, pups, furniture.

602 Found

FAIRFAX CO. ANIMAL SERVICES
If you have lost an animal in the Fairfax County/Washington Metro area: Please call the Fairfax Co. Animal Shelter at **703-830-1100** or online for found animals at **fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter**

HOWARD CO. ANIMAL CONTROL
If you have lost an animal in the Howard County/Washington Metro area: Please call Howard Co. Animal Control at **410-313-2780**

MONTGOMERY CO. ANIMAL SHELTER
If you have lost an animal in the Washington Metro area: Please call the Montgomery Co. Animal Shelter at **240-773-5960** or online for found animals at **www.mchumane.org**

610 Dogs for Sale

AKC Golden Retriever puppies, vet checked, shots, both parents on site. $500. 540-383-9443

Beautiful Pomsky Puppies, avail now, up to date on vaccines,
Call or text **434-566-6641**
for more info

610 Dogs for Sale

Bernese Mountain Puppies, ready to go, AKC, 2 females, 1 male, $2000. 717-823-8512 Hilltopheritagemtndogs.com

Boston Terrier puppies male vet checked, b/w, brindle, first shots and wormed $550 443-938-7266

Breed: Yorkshire Terrier, DOB: 03/18/2023, Age: 8 weeks old litter, 2 Males/2 Females, ACA registered, Health: Puppies has their tails docked. Puppies are ready to go home with an 8wk vet wellness checkup completed as well as their first vaccine shot and a round of deworming completed. $1200 301-653-6587

CAVACHON PUPPIES IN VIRGINIA
Adorable baby doll faces. Ready weekend. M/F. Local breeder raised in home. 703-362-8718 www.dcdogfinders.com

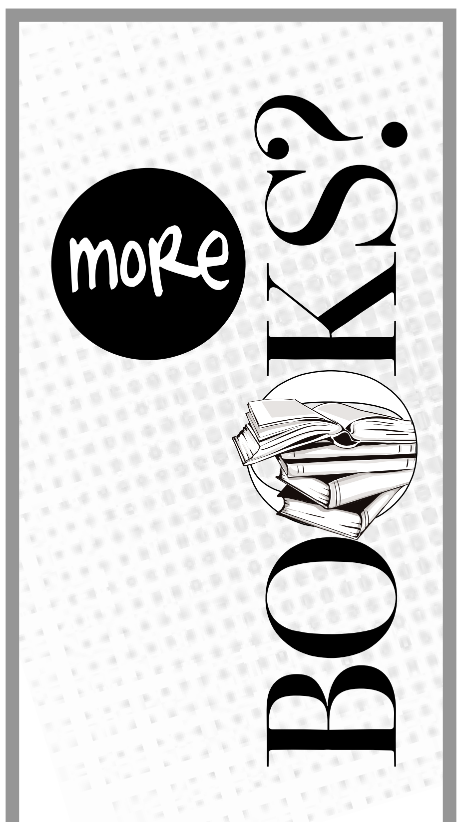
FRENCH BULLDOG PUPPIES - AKC reg, up to date shots, vet checked, ready now for forever homes. $3,000. Call **240-674-6482**

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS
Vet checked, shots. $585.
301-481-4943

Lab Puppies, both parents have hips certied, elbow certified and eyes, 1st, 2nd shots, dewormed twice, champ bloodlines, great hunters or pets $1500. 540-333-7610

Lab Pups- Haverhill choc lab puppies, avail now, $1200 ea. 43 years bringing the best puppies to the US, Canada and Mexico **301-674-6267**

SHICHON TEDDY BEAR PUPPIES in Virginia
Adorable little cuddle bugs. Rdy wkd. 10wks old. All colors. M/F. Local breeder raised in home. 703-362-8718 www.dcdogfinders.com



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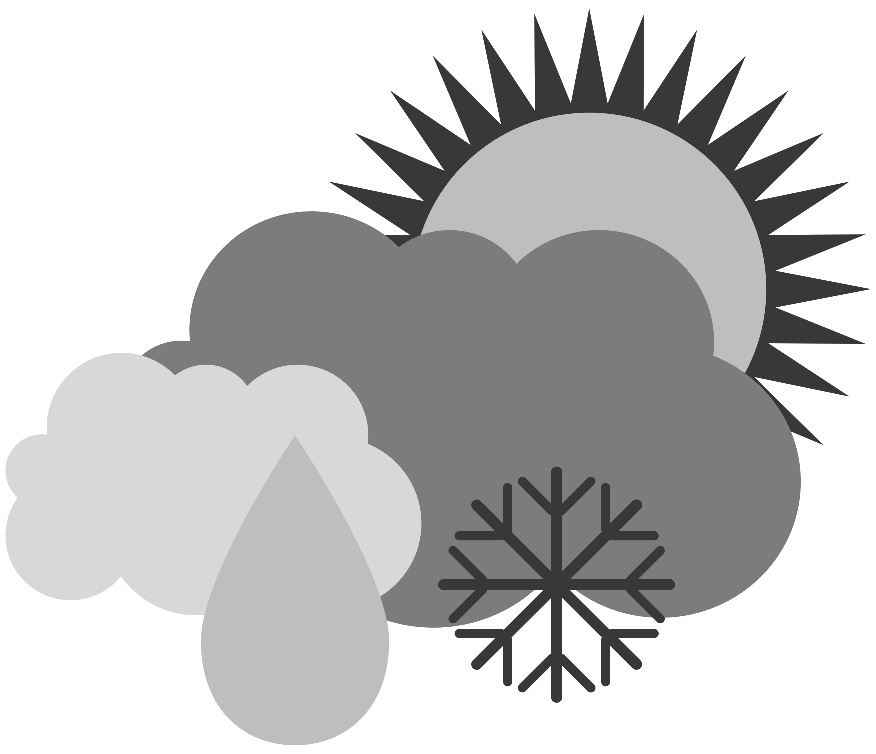

umbrella or **sunscreen?**

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